

The Mining Journal

RAILWAY AND COMMERCIAL GAZETTE:

FORMING A COMPLETE RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF ALL PUBLIC COMPANIES.

No. 1024—Vol. XXV.]

LONDON, SATURDAY, APRIL 7, 1855.

[PRICE 6d.]

MR. JAMES CROFTS, MINING BROKER,
No. 1, PINCH LANE, CORNHILL, LONDON, TRANSACTS BUSINESS,
IN BUYING AND SELLING, for immediate cash,
DIVIDEND MINES, well selected, are the best of any known investments—paying
from 15 to 20 per cent. per annum in dividends. The choice of NON-DIVIDEND
MINES for speculation requires careful discrimination.
Mr. Crofts transacts every description of business connected with the STOCK
EXCHANGE at the same rates of commission as charged by the brokers of that
establishment.—Bankers: The Commercial Bank of London.

MR. JAMES LANE HAS REMOVED from 33, to 29, THREAD-
NEEDLE STREET, and continues to DEAL in DIVIDEND AND LEADING
MINES, at the closest market prices; and especially in the following:—
Alfred Consols, Eaglebrook, Sortridge Consols, Treveltha,
Bulwiddon United, Gossams, South Carn Brea, West Caradon,
Bedford United, Great Crinias, South Caradon, West Darnley,
Bosman, Hingston Down, South Tamar, West Providence,
Bryford Hall, Marks Valley, South Crover, West Sortridge,
Carnyorth, Mollard, Stray Park, Wheel Arthur,
Condarrow, North Wh. Trelawny, Shebs, Wheel Lovel,
Daurade, North Wh. Robert, Tamar Consols, Wheel Mary Ann,
Devon Great Cons., Rosewarne, Tincroft, Wheel Trelawny,
East Wheel Russell, Rheidol United, Trehane, Wheel Wrey.

MR. J. B. BRENCHLEY, No. 2, PINNER'S COURT, OLD
BROAD STREET, has SHARES FOR SALE in the following:—
1 Buller, 2 South Garra, 50 West Polberro,
1 Basset, 5 West Providence, 40 Micon Consols,
1 West Seton, 5 North Robert, 100 Cwm Darnley,
1 Botallack, 40 Wheel Harriett, 200 Fokellia,
10 Alfred, 20 Orsedd, 300 Guskus,
5 Great Alfred, 50 Garreg, 50 Gullington,
10 Stray Park, 100 Great Sortridge,
5 Trelawny, 50 East Ver, 25 Sortridge,
40 Wheel Edward, 50 South Crenver, 15 East Russell,
5 Wheel Arthur, 20 Trehane, 100 Trelawny Down,
20 Great Baddern, 20 Wheel Golden, 50 Vale of Towy,
2 Mary Ann, 50 East Tamar,
10 Wheel Wrey, 50 Ludcott.

WANTED.—Trehane, at 23; South Devon, at 10s.
The London list of prices for application every Wednesday.

NOTICE OF REMOVAL.—MR. W. LEMON OLIVER, STOCK
AND SHAREBROKER, has REMOVED to No. 4, AUSTINFRIARS, OLD
BROAD STREET, CITY. (Sworn Broker.)—April 6, 1855.

REMOVAL.—MR. HENRY SIBLEY, STOCK, SHARE, AND
MINING AGENT, has REMOVED from No. 3, Old Broad-street, to No. 4,
BIRCHIN LANE, CORNHILL.

MESSESS. POWELL AND COOKE, DEALERS IN MINING
SHARES, No. 8, HERCULES CHAMBERS, OLD BROAD STREET,
LONDON.—The above continue to DEAL in the SHARES of all the leading DIVI-
DEND and good PROGRESSIVE MINES.—April 6, 1855.

MESSESS. T. SPARGO AND CO., MINING AGENTS AND
SHAREBROKERS, 70, CORNHILL, LONDON.
Gratuitous advice will be afforded to any gentleman requiring information respect-
ing mining investments, upon application personally or by letter.

MR. W. H. BRUMBY, STOCK AND SHAREBROKER,
No. 1, BRIDGE STREET, BATH, has BUSINESS to TRANSACT in the
following MINES:—Alfred Consols, Wheel Zion, Great Alfred, Castle Dinas, West
Palmer, Dalrhy, Nant-y-Car, Rosewarne, and South Bedford.

MR. FRANCIS RIDGMAN, MINE SHAREBROKER,
TAVISTOCK, DEVON.

MR. T. TYACK, MINE SHAREBROKER, AUCTIONEER, &c.,
CAMBORNE, CORNWALL.

MR. E. GOMPERS, MINING SHARE DEALER,
95, GRACECHURCH STREET, LONDON.

MR. HY. GOULD SHARP, MINING SHAREBROKER, has
FOR SALE, or any part thereof, the following SHARES:—
20 Mollard, 2s. 6d. 100 West Sortridge, 2s. 6d. 50 North Hingston, 1s. 9d.
100 Mollard, 3s. 6d. 5 West Alfred, 2s. 6d. 100 Liberty, 2s. 10d.
20 Guskus, 2s. 6d. 100 Great Carn Brea, 2s. 6d. 20 Cwm Darnley, 4s. 6d.
P.S. Business transacted in every description of mining shares, at the closest prices.
Cocky Hall Chambers, Bishopgate-street, London.

JAMES F. BODDY, No. 15, OLD BROAD STREET, LONDON,
TRANSACTS BUSINESS in the undermentioned, or any other MINES quoted
in the general list of the *Mining Journal*; and will be happy to forward any infor-
mation upon application, likewise a correct list of the prices.

| | | | |
|----------------|----------------------|----------------------|--------------------|
| Alfred Consols | East Black Craig | Nor. Hingston Cons. | Tremollett Downs |
| Alfred Consols | East Boscan | Par Consols | United Mines |
| Alfred Consols | Gossams | Phenix | Wheel Arthur |
| Alfred Consols | Great Crinias | Polberro | Wheel Basset |
| Alfred Consols | Great Polgoth | Pembr. & E. Crinias | Wheel Friendship |
| Alfred Consols | Garreg | Pen-y-Gelli | Wheel Golden |
| Alfred Consols | Gawton United | Oakeley | Wheel Jane |
| Alfred Consols | Gillmar | Ola (Limerick) | Wheel Mary Ann |
| Alfred Consols | Great Shebs Consols | St. Aubyn and Grylla | Wheel Trefusis |
| Alfred Consols | Great Wheel Alfred | Stray Park and Cam- | Wheel Vey |
| Alfred Consols | Great South Tor | borne Vean | Wheel Venton |
| Alfred Consols | Great Sortridge | Sortridge Consols | Wheel Whitelegg |
| Alfred Consols | Hingston Down Cons. | Sortr. and Bedford | Wheel Wrey |
| Alfred Consols | Hennock | South Bog | Wheel Zion |
| Alfred Consols | Kilrime | South Carn Brea | West Phoenix |
| Alfred Consols | Kirkcubrightshire | St. Hilary | West Sortridge |
| Alfred Consols | Marke Valley | South-West Phoenix | West Wh. Friendsh. |
| Alfred Consols | Merilyn | Trehane | Wheel Gill |
| Alfred Consols | Min. Co. of Ireland | Trehane | Wheel Ludcott |
| Alfred Consols | Messor (Bodmin) | Trehane | Wheel Surprise |
| Alfred Consols | Mixon Great Cons. | Trehane | Yeoland Consols |
| Alfred Consols | Mollard | Trehane | |
| Alfred Consols | Pen-y-Gelli | Trehane | |
| Alfred Consols | North Wheel Basset | Trehane | |
| Alfred Consols | N. Brit. Burra Burra | Trehane | |
| Alfred Consols | North Buller | Trehane | |
| Alfred Consols | North Devon | Trehane | |
| Alfred Consols | East Wheel Russell | Trehane | |
| Alfred Consols | East Wheel Vor | Trehane | |

WANTED.—Sortridge Consols, Bedford United, East Gunkis Lake, South Frances,
Stromoe Consols, Carn Brea, and others.

As to many parties have applied for the Cost-book Laws and Regulations,
I. P. Boddy will be happy to forward a correct printed copy to any part of the king-
dom, on receipt of six postage stamps.

Stock Exchange business transacted for the usual commission.
April 6, 1855. Bankers: Sir John Wm. Lubbock, Bart., and Co.

MINING INVESTMENT.—T. FULLER AND CO., 51, THREAD-
NEEDLE STREET, LONDON, continue to ADVISE CAPITALISTS upon
all description of MINING PROPERTY; and beg respectfully to call attention to
the present favourable opportunity of PURCHASING in both BRITISH and FOR-
EIGN DIVIDEND and PROGRESSIVE MINES, a careful selection of which cannot
fail to remunerate all who invest, many of them paying profits of from 15 to 20 per cent.

T. Fuller and Co., being in daily communication with agents of practical expe-
rience of the principal mines of Devon, Cornwall, and Wales, are in a position to
furnish every information, either personally or by letter, and all instructions promptly
attended to.
N.B. Office hours from Ten till Five o'clock.

MINING INVESTMENT.—MR. CHARLES GURNEY, No. 4,
CORBET COURT, GRACECHURCH STREET, LONDON, will be happy
to SHARE or SELL SHARES, on the usual commission, in all DIVIDEND
MINES, now paying from 15 to 20 per cent.; or in those working under prospect
of early dividends.

MINES, &c.—MANAGERS AND PURSERS OF MINES, and
others, requiring PLANS, SECTIONS, CIRCULARS, NOTICES of TRANS-
FERS OF SHARES, RECEIPTS of TRANSFERS OF SHARES, COMMON RE-
CEIPTS, ORDER BOOKS for MINES, or any species of SURVEYING or LITHO-
GRAPHIC WORK, will do well to apply to L. SYMONS and SON, Surveyors and
Lithographers, Quay, Truro.

MR. HERRON is a BUYER of the FOLLOWING SHARES:—
20 Gilmar, 5 Craddock Moor, 10 Chre, 30 Orsedd
30 Vale of Towy, 30 Trebarrah, 5 John del Rey, 10 Wheel Arthur
30 St. Day United, 1 West Caradon, 30 Tamar Consols, 20 Sortridge Cons.
5 East Wheel Rose, 1 South Caradon, 40 N. Vale of Towy, 5 North Basset
10 Wheel Charlotte, 1 South Frances, 10 Wheel Wrey, 5 Trehane

Mr. HERRON is a SELLER of the following:—
40 North Downs, 2 Wheel Beeth, 5 South Carn Brea, 2 Trev. and Barr.
30 Treleigh, 5 West Alf. Cons., 20 Wheel Golden, 5 Herodsfoot
30 Mollard, 5 Great Alfred, 10 North Buller, 30 Kilrime
30 Bryntall, 100 Rorrington, 5 Hilland Lanarth, 5 Wheel Uay
30 Kilbricken, 5 Pen-y-Gelli, 30 East Tamar, 20 Trehane
40 Cubert, 10 South Tamar, 20 Trelawny, 5 St. Aubyn and
10 Cook's Kitchen, 10 Merilyn, 50 Twis, 5 Grylla
1 Trelawny, 20 South Dev. Cons., 10 North Trelawny, 20 Trelawny
30 Wheel Harriett, 50 Cwm Darnley, 1 Mary Ann, 10 Callington, Kelly
5 Venton, 20 Thomas's United, 30 Alfred Consols, 20 Bray
5 Butterdon, 20 East Frongoch, 5 Kingston Down, 20 Wheel Edward
5 Stray Park, 30 Wheel Polard, 5 West Basset

A correct list of prices at application.
33, Clement's-lane, Lombard-street, April 6, 1855.

MR. JOSEPH JAMES REYNOLDS, STOCK AND SHARE-
BROKER, No. 21, THREADNEEDLE STREET, LONDON.
BUSINESS TRANSACTIONS in every description of BRITISH and FOREIGN
STOCKS, FUNDS, and SECURITIES; also, BRITISH and FOREIGN MINES.

MR. JAS. T. TREMAYNE (late accountant in the firm of Robert
Michell and Son, merchants and smelters, of Truro) begs to inform his friends
and the public, that he has COMMENCED BUSINESS at the undermentioned ad-
dress as a MINING, SHIPPING, and GENERAL COMMISSION AGENT. Having
had ten years' experience in general business in the above-named firm, he hopes to
meet with support from his Cornish friends; and he begs to assure them that any
business entrusted to him shall meet with due care and attention.
Mr. Jas. T. Tremayne has made arrangements for being regularly furnished with
the best information regarding the mines of Devon and Cornwall.

Agent for Seawater Saw Mills and Turning Factory, Truro.
1, Queen-street, Chacewater.

MR. B. LAMBERT TENDERS HIS SERVICES to PARTIES
INVESTING in or SELLING MINING PROPERTY. By the soundness of
the information to which he has access, and his bona fide character of the under-
takings to which he directs attention, his constant endeavours are to secure the sup-
port of his clients.—Offices, 8, Hatton-court, Threadneedle-street, City.

MR. EVAN HOPKINS, C.E., CONSULTING MINING
ENGINEER.—MR. HOPKINS may be CONSULTED DAILY by gentlemen
and capitalists—who have invested, or may wish to invest, their capital in MINES
or MINERAL PROPERTIES—on all matters connected therewith—home and fore-
ign. Also, in every description of METALS, MINERALS, ROCKS, and their com-
mercial value—NEW PATENTS, &c., so as to make a judicious selection and avoid
questionable schemes.
Mr. Hopkins requests his ANNUAL CLIENTS to SEND him their PRESENT
ADDRESS, and a list of the shares, &c., they now hold.
Mr. Hopkins is now prepared to receive prospectuses and reports on new under-
takings, to give his opinion thereon, and to take interest and an active part in the
London management of any of the legitimate speculations he may recommend to his
clients.—38, Thurlow-square, Brompton.

MR. ADAM MURRAY, F.G.S., CONSULTING MINING
ENGINEER, 76, CORNHILL, LONDON.

MR. N. ENNOR, of WIVELSCOMBE, SOMERSET, begs to in-
form his mining friends that he has PREPARED a LIST of MINES, which
he considers are FAIR SPECULATIONS, accompanied with ADVICE, and with
which he intends furnishing parties desiring, at a moderate emolument.—For par-
ticulars, address as above.

CAPT. THOMAS DUNN, of TAVISTOCK, undertakes to INSPECT,
REPORT, and SURVEY any MINES or MINERAL PROPERTY in EN-
GLAND, IRELAND, SCOTLAND, or WALES, in objection to take the management
of any mine or mines in the neighbourhood of Tavistock.

MR. E. EDWARDS, PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT AND AUDITOR,
LAND SURVEYOR, VALUER, &c.
Balance-sheets and Statements accurately prepared.
Land and Estates carefully Surveyed, Mapped, and Valued.
All communications addressed to 52, Threadneedle-street, or 7, Little Winchester-
street, will receive prompt attention.

MR. RICHARD MICHELL'S MINING, AUCTION, AND
GENERAL COMMISSION AGENCY OFFICES,
FORD STREET, REDRUTH.
Mines inspected, and information accurately furnished.

MR. W. T. RICKARD, F.G.S., ANALYTICAL CHEMIST,
Assayer of Copper and the Precious Metals, by Special Appointment of
the Chilean Government,
ACORN VILLA, FORD ROAD, OLD FORD, LONDON.
City Office, 17, Gracechurch-street.

MR. NEWTON SAMUELSON, F.G.S., ASSAYER AND ANA-
LYTICAL CHEMIST,—3, HACKNEY HEY, LIVERPOOL.

GEORGE RICHARDSON (late of the Eastern Counties Railway),
BROKER for all descriptions of RAILWAY PLANT and STORES,
10, CRAIG COURT, CHANCERY CROSS.

COBALT AND NICKEL.—ALFRED SENIOR MERRY,
REFINER AND PURCHASER OF COBALT AND NICKEL ORES, AND
ASSAYER IN GENERAL.—Address, LEE STREET, BIRMINGHAM.

NICKEL AND COBALT REFINING, AND GERMAN SILVER
WORKS, MILL STREET, BROAD STREET, BIRMINGHAM.—STEPHEN
BARKER begs to inform the Trade that he has the following articles for sale:—
REFINED METALLIC NICKEL. OXIDIZED COBALT. (WIRE, &c.)
REFINED METALLIC BISMUTH. GERMAN SILVER—in INGOTS, SHEET,
NICKEL AND COBALT ORES PURCHASED.

GOLDENHILL COBALT, NICKEL, COLOUR, AND
CHEMICAL WORKS, NEAR NEWCASTLE, STAFFORDSHIRE.
JOHN HENSHALL WILLIAMSON, MANUFACTURER AND REFINER.
Reference.—Professor Miller, King's College, London.

IBBOTSON BROTHERS AND CO., SHEFFIELD, STEEL AND
FIRE WORKS; also COMMISSION MERCHANTS for the SALE and PUR-
CHASE of every description of MACHINERY, and every article
used by engineers, too numerous to enumerate in an advertisement.

MR. GEORGE SPATLEY'S FOR SALE the following
SHARES, at LOWER PRICES than hitherto offered:—
2 Botallack, 1 West Caradon, 50 Cwm Darnley, 10 Wheel Zion
2 Condarrow, 100 Poltmore, 100 Wheel Golden, 2 East Basset
50 South Devon, 2 Boscan, 20 Fokellia, 5 Bedford
15 Wheel Killy, 20 Great Alfred, 1 Wheel Basset, 100 Rittion Castle
1 Wheel Buller, 10 Th. Tremayne

WANTED.—Any part of 500 Poltmore, 100 Carnyorth, 100 South Crenver, 100
Wheel Langford, 100 Mollard, 100 Rorrington, 10 Alfred Consols.
2, Winchester-buildings.

SHARES WANTED.—MR. R. REDINNICK, BROKER,
DEALER IN SHARES, MINE INSPECTOR, and GENERAL MERCHANT,
WANTS SHARES in the following MINES:—

| | | | |
|--------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Alfred Consols | Tressavan | West Providence | Buller |
| Great Alfred | St. Day United | West Basset | Carnyorth |
| Condarrow | Trenow Consols | West Basset | Bedford United |
| Leeds Town Consols | Devon Great Consols | Bull & Basset Unit. | North Pool |
| North Croft | North Croft | South Frances | Carn Brea |
| North Frances | North Rooker | Bryall | Seton |
| Dolcoath | West Seton | East | West Alfred Consols |

Mr. REDINNICK is also generally in a position to BUY or SELL in all Dividend
and Progressive Mines having an ample capital subscribed, with analogy and pro-
prietors in their favour.

Mr. REDINNICK's Synopsis of Cornish and Devon Mining for the past Nine Years
forwarded per post upon receipt of 13 postage stamps. General information and
statistics given gratuitously upon application personally or by letter.
4, Austinfriars, London, and Camborne, Cornwall.

BOTALLACK TIN AND COPPER.—MR. W. CHARLES has still
ONE SHARE to DISPOSE of in the valuable MINES. Mr. W. CHARLES
has SHARES FOR SALE in the following MINES:—viz., Great Crinias, West Par
Consols, East-Jaradon, Caylan, Langford and Bering, Albion Clay, Wrysgae Slate,
and others. Mr. W. CHARLES is a BUYER in Devon, West Cornwall, Marks Valley
Union Tin, and others.—37, Austinfriars, April 6, 1855.

GEORGE MOORE HAS FOR SALE, OR ANY PART:—
5 Alf. Cons., 213/4. 10 Trehane, 23/4. 5 North Croft.
5 Bedford United, 29/4. 10 Wh. Kitty (St. Agnes), 25 Wh. Edward, 23/4.
15 E. Wh. Russell, 21/4. 23/4. 20 Wheel Golden, 2s. 6d.
10 Hingston Down, 21/4. 10 Fokellia United, 22. 10 Trehane, 23/4.
2 Great Wh. Alfred, 221/4. 20 Vale of Towy, 14s. 20 Nanteco and Penrh. W.
20 Great Baddern, 25/4. 5 West Providence, 215. 10 North Buller, 23/4.
15 Herodsfoot, 23/4. 20 Sortridge, 22 8s. 8d.

Subject to 2 1/2 per cent. commission.
Business transacted in every description of British and Foreign Mines; every in-
formation given, and the closest prices.
GEOORGE MOORE'S NEXT SALE will TAKE PLACE at the Auction Mart on the
25th April; in the meantime, GEORGE MOORE will be happy to receive any com-
munications from his friends or the public who may be desirous of availing themselves
of the sale.—1, Crown-court, Threadneedle-street.

MR. T. P. THOMAS begs to inform his friends and the public
that, at the request of several parties interested in mining, he has ADDED
to his present business of MINE AGENT that of an AUCTIONEER for the SALE,
BY PUBLIC COMPETITION, of MINING PROPERTY.

Mr. T. P. THOMAS also informs his friends and the public, that his NEXT SALE,
BY AUCTION, of MINING and OTHER SHARES will be on Wednesday, the 18th
day of April next, at Garraway's Coffee House, Cornhill, London; and any parties
wishing to have shares inserted in his catalogue, will please favour him with their
instructions previous to Thursday next.

Mr. T. P. THOMAS reminds parties that his wish is to have his sales bona fide; and
those having shares put up with reserved prices will please understand that his
charges are for buying in shares under 2 1/2 per cent., and over that sum 1 1/2; his
charge for selling being double those rates. References given and required to and
from parties opening new accounts.
Dividend and established shares bought and sold privately at the closest prices.
Mines inspected and reported on by the most experienced agents.
Mr. T. P. THOMAS trusts that his experience as a mining agent, and the confidence
and support he has received from the leading shareholders in Cornwall, London, and
elsewhere, for the last 12 years, will be a guarantee that all property placed in his
hands for sale will be disposed of to the best advantage.
75, Old Broad-street, London, April 6, 1855.

AUCTION FOR MINING SHARES.—JOHN ROBERT PIKE,
of SOUTH SEA CHAMBERS, THREADNEEDLE STREET, at the request
of the mining public, holds his AUCTION for the SALE OF NUMEROUS SHARES
in the chief DIVIDEND and PROGRESSIVE MINES of Cornwall and Devon, RAIL-
WAY, BANK, CANAL, INSURANCE, and OTHER SHARES, GOVERNMENT,
FOREIGN, and OTHER STOCKS, at the Mart, on Thursday, the 10th April next,
at One o'clock; in the interval, J. R. PIKE is prepared to negotiate at a commission
of 2 1/2 per cent. on the sale of all mining stock. J. R. PIKE requests his friends
and the public to forward, on or before the 10th April, particulars of the shares for sale,
due notice of which will be published in the *Mining Journal* and the daily papers.
Information upon speculative investment given gratuitously upon application.
April 6, 1855.

JOHN ROBERT PIKE is instructed to SELL, BY AUCTION, at
the Mart, Bartholomew-lane, on Thursday, the 19th April, at One o'clock pre-
cisely, the following valuable MINING SHARES, unless previously disposed of by
private contract:—

| | |
|---------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1 ROSEWARNE UNITED. | 10 CARVANNALL. |
| 2 WEST SETON. | 12 NORTH CROFTY. |
| 3 BULLER AND WEST PEN. | 2 SOUTH BULLER AND WEST PEN. |
| 1 CONDUROW. | 2 STRUTHAL. |
| 30 NORTH TOWY. | 20 STRAY PARK. |
| 4 TYWARDREATH. | 2 WEST TOWAN. |
| 44 TREBELL. | 60 EAST TAMAR. |
| 1 TREVISKEY AND BARRIER. | 10 OLD BASSET. |
| 10 GILMAR. | 12 ELANT CONSOLS. |
| 6 KITTY (ELANT). | 60 WHEAL HELEN (BREA). |
| 100 BORRINGTON. | 2 WEST SHARP TOR. |
| 1 BOSCAN. | 5 WEST PROVIDENCE. |
| 30 NECROPOLIS (2nd paid). | 10 TRELAWTH. |
| 20 SOUTH CARN BREA. | 30 SOUTH-WEST PHENIX. |
| 10 COMFORT. | 50 NORTH LEVANT. |
| 100 EAST VOI. | 25 WHEAL TREVEN. |
| 100 LEEDS TOWY CONSOLS. | 12 BELL AND LANARTH. |
| 12 SOUTH CROFTY. | 5 CLIJAH AND WENTWORTH. |
| 40 NANT-AB-NELLE. | |

South Sea Chambers, Threadneedle-street, April 7, 1855.

MR. LELEAN, 4, CUSHION COURT, OLD BROAD STREET,
LONDON.—BUSINESS TRANSACTIONS in every description of BRITISH
STOCKS, FUNDS, and SECURITIES; also, BRITISH and FOREIGN MINES.

PARTNER WANTED, in an OLD-ESTABLISHED IRON FORGE
and GENERAL and SHOVEL FACTORY, near SWANSEA, now in full work,
and amply supplied with machinery and utensils, and an unending water-power.
The proprietor wishes to avail himself of a favourable opportunity which now offers
of extending the business; and will be happy to treat with any gentleman having from
£1000 to £1500 at command.—Application to be made to Mr. T. A. MARTIN, Swansea.
Swansea, March 20, 1855.

TO IRONMASTERS, COPPER COMPANIES, &c.—The
ADVERTISER (residing in Glasgow), having an important connection among
the CLYDE SHIPBUILDERS and ENGINEERS, as also RAILWAY COMPANIES,
is OPEN for FIRST CLASS COMMISSIONS. First references can be given.—
Address, "R. C. A." *Mining Journal* office, 26, Fleet-street, London.

THE ADVERTISER, who understands ASSAYING, and the SMELT-
ING OF COPPER, LEAD, and SILVER ORES, is desirous of meeting with an
ENGAGEMENT in a COPPER or LEAD and SILVER SMELTING WORKS.—
Address, with particulars, to "A. B. G." *Mining Journal* office, 26, Fleet-st., London.

WICKLOW COPPER MINING COMPANY.—TO BE SOLD,
BY PRIVATE CONTRACT, a VALID and RECOVERABLE CLAIM upon
the above company for £15,500, unpaid royalties under the will of the lord of the
manor where the works are situated. For particulars, address Mr. ISAAC BACON,
92, Blackfriars-road, London.

TRENOW CONSOLS MINE.—WANTED, a NUMBER OF
SHARES herein.—Replies, stating number, lowest price, and whether all calls
paid up, to "Box C. 6," Post-office, Manchester, will be attended to.

SEVERAL HUNDRED RHOSYDD SHARES FOR SALE, very
cheap.—Apply, stating a price, care of "Alpha," News Hall, Fleet-street.

FOR SALE.—100 Lydford, 5s.; 5 Alfred Consols, 13 1/4; 5 West
Providence, 14 1/4; and 25 Henneock, 7s. 6d. per share.—Letters addressed to
"E. D." *Mining Journal* office, 26, Fleet-street, will meet attention.

FOR SALE, a WATER-WHEEL, 40-feet diameter, 6-feet breast,
wrought-iron buckets, and cast-iron rings, 13-inches deep; 56 arms of the best
pitch pine timber, iron axles, cranks, and driving-wheel; has done but little work,
and is quite as good as new, and will be sold a bargain. It can be easily shipped or
sent to any part of the country, and estimates may be had for any description of ma-
chinery (for mining and other purposes) to be attached. It may be seen near the
Newton station of the South Devon Railway.

ALSO a 20-ft. WHEEL, 2-ft. breast, quite new, with everything complete. Apply
to Messrs. WENNER, Ironfounders and Millwrights, Newton Abbot, Devon.

WATER-WHEEL, 40 ft. diameter, 2 1/2 ft. breast, cast-iron axle and
sockets for the arms, and one shaft bob, to BE SOLD, BY PRIVATE
CONTRACT.—For further information, apply to Capt. HEATH, Lydford.

ENGINES FOR SALE.—28 in. cylinder PUMPING ENGINE,
with boiler 9 tons; 24 in. STAMPING, CRUSHING, or WINDING ENGINE,
with boiler 8 tons; TO BE SOLD, with or without boilers; all nearly new.—Apply
to Geo. SEALY, auctioneer, Marazion.—Marazion, Jan. 10, 1855.

GREAT WHEAL VOR UNITED MINES.—Notice is hereby given,
that an EXTRA GENERAL MEETING of shareholders in these mines will be
held at the company's office, as under, on Saturday, the 14th inst., at Two p.m.,
to receive information on the state of the mine.
R. T. ALISON, Sec.
17, Gracechurch-street, London, April 4, 1855.

RED DRAGON MINE.—Notice is hereby given, that a SPECIAL
GENERAL MEETING of the shareholders in the above company will be
held at No. 4, King-street, Chacewater, City, on Friday, the 13th April inst., at One
o'clock precisely, to consider the best means of providing capital for the future work-
ing of the said mine, and for other purposes.
WM. HY. SMITH, Purser.
Winchester House, Broad-street, London, April 2, 1855.

IMPERIAL BRAZILIAN MINING ASSOCIATION.—The
TRANSFER BOOKS of this association WILL CLOSE on Monday, the 10th
inst., and RE-OPEN the day after the General Meeting in May, of which due notice
will be given.
By order, JOEL HITCHCOCK.
Winchester House, Broad-street, London, April 2, 1855.

NOTICE TO INVENTORS AND PATENTERS.—The OFFICES
for PROCURING PATENTS are REMOVED to No. 19, ESSEX STREET,
STAND, LONDON, where all information (British and foreign) may be obtained
gratis.—AVERY, BELLFORD, GARDINER, and Co., patent agents and negotiators.

Original Correspondence.

MINERAL PRODUCE OF AUSTRALIA.

Sir,—Since my return from Australia in January last, I have met with several of your readers, who have desired me to give them some mining information, in reference to Australia, through your Journal.

The following is an approximate return of copper and lead ores raised in South Australia since the first discovery of our metalliferous deposits:

| Copper mines— | | | |
|-----------------------------|--------|---------------------------|---------|
| Burra Burra.....Tons | 93,284 | South Kapunda.....Tons | 300 |
| Kakulla..... | 75 | Kapunda..... | 12,656 |
| K. amantoo..... | 3,441 | Princess Royal..... | 588 |
| Ditto, leased portions..... | 560 | North Rhine..... | 100 |
| Paringa..... | 512 | Port Lincoln..... | 350 |
| Ditto, leased portions..... | 300 | Boyal Mining Company..... | 60 |
| Monteate..... | 2,600 | Dutton's Mine..... | 50 |
| Alalade..... | 200 | Strathalbyn..... | 250 |
| Enterprise..... | 200 | Breadalbane..... | 250 |
| Reedy Creek..... | 1,300 | Glennalbyn..... | 115,520 |
| Total Tons..... | | | |

| Silver-lead mines— | | | |
|----------------------|-------|-------------------------|-----|
| Glen Osmond.....Tons | 1,069 | Wheal Margaret.....Tons | 130 |
| Wheal Watkins..... | 1,200 | Wheal Brothers..... | 40 |
| Wheal Granger..... | 78 | Belvidere..... | 100 |
| Wheal Gwiler..... | 90 | | |
| Total tons..... | | | |

The value of 115,520 tons of copper ore, at 15s. per ton, would be the sum of 1,732,800s.; and of 2629 tons of silver-lead ore, at 15s. per ton, 29,435s., making together 1,762,235s. already derived from the mines of the colony of South Australia. The bulk of these ores was raised between the years 1844 and 1850. We are assured that, reckoning every person employed (including men, women, and children) in raising and preparing ores, the mining population of the colony, even before the gold fields were discovered, never exceeded 3000 souls; so that the aggregate returns of their productive industry in those years averaged nearly 600s. per head. It should be borne in mind that nothing approaching to a state of exhaustion has resulted from such extensive productiveness.

The Burra Burra, which has yielded so large a proportion of the aggregate above mentioned, is still rich in the quality of its ores, in its manifestly great productive capabilities, and in the prospective wealth which is more than likely to confirm the most flattering predictions of practical and scientific men.

The Kapunda's ores have averaged full 21 per cent., and at this rate the produce of the mine must have amounted to the large sum of 227,700s. Even in 1848 as many as eight lodes had been discovered, and were all producing ores of good quality: and as the mine is, no doubt, only just coming into a good course of working, it is difficult to form an estimate of the value or the extent of its future productiveness.

Several of the mines referred to above have earned of future metalliferous wealth, rather than of the absolute and profitable yield, which claims especial descriptive record; but in many instances this earnest has been quite sufficient to satisfy the sagacious and experienced mind, and to form strong grounds of favourable calculation for the future, when perhaps the mineral products of South Australia will be rich, various, and vast, beyond the most sanguine anticipations of the present day.

I will, as leisure permits, give your readers a description of the character of the strata, &c., in which the mines are found, and also of the gold fields generally. I have been in Australia nine years.

Linkard, March 28.

J. B. PASCOE.

GOVERNMENT MINE INSPECTORS—MR. MACKWORTH.

Sir,—A late number of your Journal contains a letter from an anonymous correspondent, signing himself "Coal Miner," which appears to be one of a series, having for its object to depreciate the value of the services of the present Government Mining Inspectors, and to demonstrate their unfitness for the posts they occupy. Having the honour of the acquaintance of one of them, whose name has been especially selected (Mr. Mackworth), and known him for 15 years, I can state that your correspondent's letter conveys groundless insinuations, and greatly misrepresents the character and qualifications of that gentleman.

My acquaintance with Mr. Mackworth commenced during the two years he availed himself of the assistance to study presented by the engineering and mining department of King's College, and gained the first prizes of his year. Since that time he has been uninterruptedly connected with engineering and mining works. He learnt the practical part of his profession on the Sheffield and Manchester Railway, and the Woodhead Tunnel, and known him at that time in England, which took seven years to complete. Eight railways and branches in the northern counties have been laid out under his superintendence; amongst them, I will only, however, refer to the Huddersfield and Manchester line, one-fifth of the length of which passes underground; there are on it, besides, eight viaducts, four tunnels in the coal strata and millstone grit, and it employed at one time above 4000 workmen. The Standedge Tunnel, the longest in England, was executed under Mr. Mackworth's immediate superintendence, in the unprecedented time of 3½ years. The impression intended to be conveyed by "Coal Miner," that Mr. Mackworth is without experience in his profession, is, therefore, incorrect. In short, including his knowledge of English and continental mining, it would be hard to name any engineer who has had more varied experience in mining operations, or who could more appropriately have been selected by Sir Henry De la Beche to undertake the responsible duties of a Government Mining Inspector, from upwards of 100 candidates.

From what I know of Mr. Mackworth, I feel certain that he cannot but regard such attacks as those that have accidentally crept into your columns with any other feeling than contempt; but as they tend to mislead the class your correspondent assumes to represent, the intelligence of that body will, perhaps, appreciate a simple statement of facts, as much as the lengthy epistles of your aspiring correspondent, "Coal Miner." (I beg to enclose my card.)—April 3.

C. E.

GOVERNMENT INSPECTORS.—SEATON COLLIERY.

Sir,—A report is prevalent here, that the six additional mine inspectors about to be appointed, or who are already appointed, are to pass an examination as to their fitness and qualifications for such offices on the 16th inst., before Nicholas Wood, Esq., colliery owner and viewer.

With respect to the eminence of Mr. Wood's position, and his abilities for the work allotted him, no one would presume to entertain a question; but it is to be hoped that Sir G. Grey will not so far forget what is likely to be the result of such an appointment, should it be true that Mr. Wood has to examine these parties, will the mining body be satisfied that the examination will be an impartial one, when Mr. Wood has, along with the whole of the agents of the coal trade, agreed to a resolution that no more inspectors were necessary, and who, along with other agents, has always been opposed to any inspection at all? Can, I repeat, the miners feel assured that the party who disavows the necessity for inspection be likely to be careful whether the said inspectors are duly qualified or not? Indeed, as matters stand, and with these facts before us, it becomes Mr. Wood's interest, and the interest of the trade he is so largely embarked in, to pass for inspectors the least possible efficient men, and thus save themselves from the necessarily strictest surveillance. Besides, who are the additional inspectors? The miners have never been advised with—not a word has reached them officially as to who are the selected gentlemen. Are the miners not interested in such appointments? Is it not to them as a life and death question who may be so appointed? The facts are these—the Government ought to observe that the miners are the only parties for whose especial advantage the Inspection Bill is needed; and that, second to the necessity for such bill, are the necessary and proper men for carrying out the objects thereof; whereas the owners and managers of collieries are interested (not really so) in keeping inspection as far off as possible; but, as the necessity has been so far proved as not to admit of it being shelved, then the next best thing for the owners is to have the choice of the most suitable persons—those who will not annoy them by being too officious—who will just make a show of authority, and allow them (the owners) to escape with the least possible harm.

In taking this view of the matter, I am free to confess that I am anxious Sir G. Grey will not carry out so dangerous an experiment, or to form a precedent so fraught with evil consequences. What would be thought of allowing link-pers to choose the examiners, who have to exercise a similar jurisdiction as pertains to a mine inspector? or what would be the consequences to the community if prisoners at the criminal bar were to choose the judge and the jury who had to decide upon their criminality, &c.? Yet, are the owners of collieries placed at the bar of morality? And have they not been, as a body, found guilty of neglecting their workmen's health, and of not taking proper care of their lives? Will it not, therefore, be an outrage on humanity to allow them, through one of their body, to select the men who shall be appointed to the office of mine inspectors?

In proof of the inutility of Mr. Wood, or any other of those interested in coal mines (for I do not object to Mr. Wood in particular, but the principle proposed to be carried out), I enclose you a "circular," which has been addressed by Mr. Dunn, the Government Inspector of this district, in manuscript, to the workmen of Seaton Colliery, by which it will be seen that the said colliery is not in a very enviable state, the head-viewer and the under-viewer being at variance; whilst the greatest necessity exists for harmony of action in carrying on so dangerous a colliery. Mr. Wood is connected with the said colliery—I believe the chief manager thereof; how, then, can we expect that he will judiciously select persons for the miners' advantage, when the parties who are managers at Seaton do not give satisfaction, either to the workmen or the mine inspector, or perhaps to the owners? The workmen of Seaton, I understand, are about to memorialise Sir G. Grey, inasmuch as, since the "Circular" was printed, and copies sent to the owners, Mr. Wood included, three of them have got notice to quit the colliery, and, as they allege, for being suspected of taking part in such printing and circulation.

I trust, however, that Sir G. Grey will not so far overlook the welfare of the mining body as to leave the choice of inspectors to any single individual, or individuals, so closely interested in the trade as the owners and managers of collieries are.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, April 4.

M. JUDS.

IRON SHOT FOR RIFLE-CANNON.

Sir,—My expanding shot of the year 1833 was derived from the Malay arrow, with its expanding base formed of the pith of the lotus plant. The principle of my present shot is, that the shot of cork, or other matter, such as awdust, compressed by a powerful engine, such as an hydraulic press, shall expand into the spiral groove of a rifle-cannon, and communicate the rotary motion to the iron shot without the shot being itself rifled, thus no injury can affect the rifle of the cannon, or other rifled arm.—Bristol Hotel, April 5.

J. NOAKES.

LIMITED LIABILITY OF SHAREHOLDERS.

Sir,—Your correspondent, "One who fears the Cost-book System," need not have feared, I should have thought, to have seen his name in print. I dislike anonymous letters—they are too often made the vehicle of private pique; but as, in the present case, nothing personal is involved (except, indeed, a gentle stroke at the party who thinks that the accounts of a mining partnership can be properly kept without a ledger), I will endeavour to reply to the question addressed to me—viz., "In what circumstances do the disadvantages of limited liability manifest themselves?"

The limited liability here referred to, I understand to relate to mining partnerships only—not to joint-stock companies in general.

The better to elucidate the subject, it may be well for us to begin at the beginning, and consider how a mining company (as the first working of a mine) originates. Let us suppose that a promising lode having been discovered in some mine, a party applies to the proprietor of the neighbouring land for leave to search therein for 12 months; and then, if the lode be found worth prosecuting, to have a sett for 21 years, on the usual conditions. The lord gives a memorandum in writing to this effect, which, if prepared by his steward or solicitor, may cost (say) two guineas. The applicant, now the grantee, associates a few friends with him, and employs some miners to explore for the lode. In two or three months it may have been discovered, and found sufficiently inviting to induce further search. The few proprietors then meet to make a contribution according to their several shares, to pay the costs incurred, and to prepare for the next 12 months. On this occasion, perhaps, a cost-book is first produced, commencing with a copy or abstract of the license to work, and then a memorandum, stating the number of shares it is agreed to divide the concern into (perhaps 32 or 64), and the number to be held by each adventurer, including the grantee, whose signature, and that of the other shareholders, to this memorandum, constitutes the complete legal formation of a mining company, and at an expense (say) of 60s., viz., for license and cost-book. These two figures, and particulars of the work done by the miners, being further entered in the cost-book, and a call made and paid, an adventurer is at liberty to dispose of his shares, and which shares are equal to the promised sett or lease of the lode.

If, in a few months, prospects of success dawn, and it is not thought worth while to incur the expense of a lease, with the exception of the license, the company also expires; and the whole expense of forming, carrying on, and winding up, has, in some cases in my experience, been under 10s.

If, on the contrary, the lode or lodes prove productive, the lease is duly taken up, and expenses go on, and calls to meet them. The adventurers meet once in two or three months, to audit accounts, and make the needed calls. We will suppose them practical men, who know that, if any liability be not brought forward, they are liable for it just as if it appeared in the accounts; they, therefore, feel the necessity of having a pursuer, whom they can trust, to let them know the real state of their affairs, as well as to hold the purse-strings. When there is confidence that all liabilities are entered, the prudent adventurer has next to ascertain that receipts for everything charged at the preceding meeting are produced at the present meeting. He then feels satisfied that all is right; and, if enquired of whether he would like a law to be passed for limiting the liability of shareholders, he might enquire in what way a mine could be worked on such a system.

If we then suppose the adventurers were liable for labour or goods supplied to the mine, or liable only each for his own share of every separate supply, he could not expect miners or merchants to give credit.

Should it then be attempted to carry on a mine by paying cash for everything—labour and goods, the difficulties as respects the latter would be great, though, perhaps, not insuperable; but all persons acquainted with mining know that, on the present (good) system of supplying the workmen with candles, powder, &c., it is necessary, and also for enforcing the completion of contracts, to keep a month's wages in hand, and, therefore, to be always in debt to the men one month, and part of an additional month's wages, for the cost of the materials, and the cost of the materials, of sufficient value, might continue available, by summary process, as at present. Further, as calls must be made in advance, to provide the means for these cash payments, doubtless some parties, from absence or other causes, would not have paid in time, and then the mine must either stop or be carried on by the funds of part only of the adventurers; and all methods of recovering debts by creditors from shareholders being done away with, this non-liability would, if I mistake not, be found to operate as a premium upon default, and, therefore, an injury to mining, and to the honest and paying shareholders.

If it be assumed that shareholders may be made responsible up to a certain amount per share, such a plan, however applicable to companies with a fixed capital, is not so to mining. It was partly with a view to meet this point that I have described the commencement of a mine. A fixed capital, it will have been seen, is foreign to the idea of Cornish mining. Instances have been known of mines requiring no capital at all—not a single call. To take the two principal mines of the district in which I reside—South and West Caradon: the capital required for the former was only 30s. per share for 156 shares, 468s.; while the present price of these shares being 50s., the value of the mine is now 78,000s. The capital required for West Caradon proved to be 20s. per 25th share, and the present value (at 160s. per share) is 40,000s.

Now, at the commencement of West Caradon, if we had, judging from the small capital required by our neighbours across the stream, fixed our capital at 2500s., as amply sufficient, and by some rules and regulations, intended as an improvement of the Cost-book System, had divided our mine into 256 shares of 10s. each, and thus precluded ourselves from making calls to more than that amount, in what a foolish position should we not have placed ourselves.

If we then arrive at the conclusion that fixed capital, and, consequently, any restriction of liabilities to a fixed amount per share, is inapplicable to mining companies, and that the removal of liability from shareholders involves cash payments for everything, and, consequently, the making anticipatory calls, which could not be enforced in time to be available, and, if enforced at all, only perhaps by proceedings in equity, where is the advantage, I would ask, of limited liability, or of no liability, or of a scheme I have heard of, of having some adventurers liable, and others not—some working men, who are to be subject to all the risks, and some "sleeping partners," who are to run no risk at all? Unless a working man of this scheme are to be paid at much higher rates than are current in Cornwall for mining services, I think we shall most of us prefer being "found napping."

The very inexpensive mode of forming, carrying on, and winding up a mining company under the pure Cost-book System (without rules and regulations)—the moderate degree of trouble (either to oneself, or, if more convenient, by deputation some trustworthy person) to attend mine meetings, and ascertain that all obligations are regularly discharged—the great improvement of any mode being found of relieving mining shareholders from risk of debt, and yet affording them a good chance of profit (for such an advantage must be not for some way and some capital, as well as gold, may be bought too dear), lead me to fear, not the Cost-book System, like my querist, but any tampering with it; and if the lawyers once lay their hands on it, by obliging us to go through I know not what forms, and expensive ones, too, in order legally to constitute a mining company (as under the Joint-Stock Companies Act), I cannot but think that mining will sustain a heavy blow, and some of our landed proprietors no small loss.—Linkard, 29th of 3d month, 1855.

EDWARD A. CHOUCH.

LIGHTS ON LODES.—HOT AND COLD WATER IN MINES.

Sir,—I this day had an opportunity for a few minutes of perusing your useful Journal, where I see that my pretended friends have given me rather a hard task—that is, if they expect me to reply to their queries this week. I ask, Mr. Editor, one week's grace more, as any one acquainted with these affairs must know that it is quite sufficient, when on a tour of inspection, to go underground each day, dine, and drink a glass with the agents, answer letters, and write two reports of each mine; and which, to ride 10 or 20 miles, and to be in the evening for the evening day. I ask this, as I am of the opinion, of what may be supposed a dilemma, as I fear them not, and shall most certainly reply.

Mr. Henwood I thank for his views, and the way in which he puts his questions on the subject. He, seeing my remarks last week, will now look to some more authentic source than that of "Junius," and hearsay, before he chronicles them as facts.

If "G. D." had the candour of "A. K.," he would have given his genuine name to the public, or to me in private—without which I shall only reply to him once.

I always make statements which I am prepared to prove, and am, therefore, never at a loss to back up the statements I make; and the same time, I wish to contend with an antagonist who is not involved in mystery; and I hope to produce better proofs than grandfathers' tales or by-gone traditions.

I am led to believe, from the tenor of his remarks, that they are brought forward more from spite than to elicit knowledge: probably they may come from a correspondent for some time past lost to your columns.

If parties will mine in districts where they will never find copper enough to pay for their candle-light, I cannot help it; why, therefore, turn malignantly on me, when it is not my fault, but their own, that only the fruits and consequences of incapacity willing, that they are long. My remarks were given only to recall them from their erroneous proceedings.

Parties would not, certainly, for a moment suppose them capable of drawing the unwary into speculations in such barren districts, merely for the few paltry pounds they receive as salary.—Redruth, April 4.

N. ENKOR.

CARBONIFEROUS ROCKS.—LIGHTS ON LODES.

Sir,—At the risk of being wearisome, I again address Capt. Ennor on the subjects he has been so kind as to inform me upon. To take, first, the matter of carboniferous rocks being entirely unworthy of investigation for lead or copper mines to produce a profit, I beg to quote the words of the author of the Government Geological Survey, whose geological map was my foundation in a former letter. Sir Henry De la Beche says—"The great copper lode of Wheal Friendship would appear clearly to cut through the carbonaceous system, inasmuch as its walls are composed of black carbonaceous slate; and this mass of anthracite, thicker than a shilling, are found among the harder and more arenaceous beds through which it passes. The lead and silver mine of Wheal Betsey is certainly in the carbonaceous system, as is also the tin lode of Wheal Jewel." I remember, I believe, to have read in the same work that there was lime in the lode, but cannot find the statement for the moment. I did not, I believe, reason that Wheal Friendship was in the series contended for, because of the lime at Bideford. I asked, if a highly good copper lode were in existence in such series, abutting on the granite, why others might not exist under similar circumstances elsewhere? and Bideford appears to be a case in point, provided other details are favourable. To continue, the lode of Wheal Friendship, going west, has precisely the same aspect in every particular as the old mine back, and the same stratum. I agree with Mr. Ennor as to the propriety of seeking for fresh deposits where he directs. It does not follow, however, that the great deposits ended before coming west; on the contrary, Wheal Friendship party is working west, close towards the new Friendship sett. Mr. Ennor's argument as to the lincal course holds good where the stratum is changed, or where cross-courses should be away, should the former be present, or in other details. I continue to follow Mr. Ennor through Exmoor, Melland, and Poltimore, to which I can say there is abundance of iron. If Mr. Ennor says these mines are in the carbonaceous series, I beg once more to quote Sir H. De la Beche in favour of the opposite—viz., clay-slate system. In the end of his letter, Mr. Ennor speaks of an elvan, or other intercalaries, being materially important points as to changing the lode of East Russell, which seems to be highly iron. Now, it appears to be Sir H. De la Beche's opinion that the strike of the Lundy Island granite coincides with that of the clay-slate series, in which Exmoor and other mines are situated; and we may argue, therefore, such granite, though unseen, may possibly affect the prospects, provided we can find slides, or other intercalaries, as indicated by Mr. Ennor, to change their admitted iron rocks. I am merely replying to Mr. Ennor with a view to derive truth, having no very direct interest in this writing. Capt. Ennor's remarks on backs of lodes, &c., I am only happy to have called forth, if indeed I have at all done so. The remarks on warm water from lead mines have thrown some light on the matter, though, from further evidence I have, this seems an undecided question. Mr. Ennor will excuse my preciseness, as the

in mines under my management, it is usual for the earliest attenders at a meeting to examine the receipts, and report to the meeting when opened.

more absolute general rules can be made, the more it would seem true science is approached. The same remarks will apply to lights on lodes, and perhaps rather less so to hot water and air from copper lodes. I hope Mr. Ennor will continue his interesting letters, as there appears truth in believing that, with accurate attention to the laws of geology, the practical observations of honest men, and proper management, mining may take the stand, Mr. Editor, you so consistently and judiciously advocate. I have strong sentiments on the results which may proceed from care in mining. Bideford, March 29.

A. K.

P.S.—I beg to thank "Junius," of St. Austell, for his kind reply to my queries on Lights on Lodes.

LIGHTS ARISING FROM LODES.

Sir,—In renewing this subject, I find that Mr. Ennor, who does not deny that lights proceed from the earth, because he has not seen them himself, has no confidence in other persons who have witnessed them. I should wish to know where the person is to be found in whom he can put confidence, especially if it be against his doctrines. I may state to Mr. Ennor, that every person is not so widely known as himself, but certainly a man may not know the less for that—some have more modesty about them than others; and because "Junius" does not give his real name, that does not say he is writing what he cannot prove—he will find the writer hereof not to shun out of it by the anonymous name, and will also at some early period give Mr. Ennor the name of the mine.

It does not follow, because the letter was written from St. Austell, that the light was seen there. Let me ask Mr. Ennor why could not a man see upwards of a mile in the Perran and St. Agnes districts, where the light was seen? (I am quite aware that Mr. Ennor knows the district.) I may likewise state to him, that I was not by myself when I saw it. Lights have also been seen in the Wheal Towan, just as before described by me in your Journal, and of a light bluish colour; also in Wheal Charis, just as seen at Gooanvren Mine, described by Mr. G. Henwood, of which I had heard before. And where, I may ask, have been found better copper mines than the two former? But since they have been wrought out, no lights are to be seen. This can be substantiated by living witnesses—persons to be credited, not hobgoblins, ghosts, &c. But will Mr. Ennor credit this? and can he account for their not being seen now as formerly, before these mines were wrought out? or will he say more of his illusive meteors fell then than now?

Mr. G. Henwood's remarks, I think, are very good; we may differ a little on some points relating to moors after they become drained, &c.; but, as I did not happen to note some of the particulars he mentions, I may not be able to answer him satisfactorily on the different points. I hope, however, without pressing too much on his time, he will favour us with something further on the subject.

JUNIUS.

ESGAIR MWYN MINING COMPANY.

Sir,—The attention of the directors of this company having been called to a letter which appeared in your Journal of the 31st ult., signed "A Shareholder," giving a supposed statement of the London expenses of the company for the past year, 1854, the directors feel bound, in justice to themselves and the shareholders, to send you the subjoined statement of the actual expenses, as compared with those set forth by the writer of the letter in question:—

| "A Shareholder's" statement. | | Actual statement. | |
|---|-------------|-------------------|--|
| Salaries..... | £423 5 9 | £100 0 0 | |
| Accountant's charges..... | 106 2 3 | — | |
| Law charges..... | 545 3 6 | 47 10 0 | |
| Rent..... | 129 4 0 | 40 0 0 | |
| Directors' fees..... | 243 8 0 | 75 0 0 | |
| Stationery, &c..... | 88 5 8 | 31 10 8 | |
| Travelling expenses..... | 57 5 8 | 41 0 0 | |
| Printing, &c..... | 11 5 3 | — | |
| Bankers' commission..... | 8 1 6 | 8 1 6 | |
| Sundries, including printing accounts, expenses on removing offices, housekeeper's account, coats, stamps for bankers' drafts, advertising, office furniture, office boy's wages, receipt stamps for scrip certificates, proxies, postage and sundries..... | 163 9 11 | 60 3 0 | |
| Total..... | £1773 7 10 | £404 5 2 | |
| Purchase of office furniture (asset)..... | £43 8s. 8d. | | |

115, Fenchurch-street, April 3. F. ROBINSON, Sec.

WHEAL WREY.

Sir,—The letter in the Mining Journal of last week, signed "Cobden-bright," put me in mind of some putative father of whom I have read, who was exceedingly fond of his supposed child, so long as it continued to submit itself to his guidance; but when it came to years of discretion, and ventured to judge for itself what seemed to promise most for its advancement, then he disowned it. Now, I must beg a little space in your valuable paper, in order to make a few observations in reply to your correspondent's remarks respecting Wheal Wrey. He says, "Lead was never so cheap, and we are forcing our commodity on a drooping market;" and, by way of illustration, as he fancies, asks—"Who would sell his corn when prices are low, instead of keeping it, and waiting for a rise?" I hope he will allow me to tell him, and living in an agricultural county I have had some means of judging—that he who takes "barn-door price" is sure, in the long run, to be the best off. If all farmers were to set on his advice, and to keep back their corn until they could obtain a certain price, they would be sure to defeat their own purpose. The same rule holds good with lead: prices will fluctuate, according to circumstances; and, probably, the same cause which now makes corn dear, makes lead cheap. He says again, "Wheal Wrey is being emptied fast—that the ground is soft, and easy to drive—that the drawers can hardly drive the ore fast enough, &c." Now, the fact that the ore can be raised at so little expense, in such quantities too, is a most favourable feature in the working of the mine. Wheal Wrey, it is well known, is a very extensive sett, and when we bear in mind that Mary Ann, Trilawny, and Trebane, are down about 120 fms. each, and still making immense returns of ore, we need not fear that Wheal Wrey, which is not yet worked below the 23 fms. level, is likely to be soon emptied.

He says again—"We are paying 4s. dividends, a la Trewhella, in order to give the mine a fictitious value." Now, if I am not mistaken in your correspondent, this very gentleman proposed, at the meeting in February last, a 5s. dividend; and not only so, but was exceedingly surprised that no dividend was declared at the previous meeting in November. If I am not mistaken, he has frequently said, "Such were the riches of Wheal Wrey, that besides paying a regular 5s. dividend for years to come, there would remain a large surplus profit to meet all contingencies." I am quite sure he would not have been so ready to make such a statement, if he did not believe he will have the kindness to explain; or does he wish us to consider it as his valedictory address to the neighbourhood of Linkard? If so, I would yet beg to assure him, and his friend, "Abinadab Crotch," par nobis fratrum, in spite of their predictions of evil days coming, our confidence in the present efficient management of Wheal Wrey remains unshaken.—April 3.

A LOOKER-ON.

WEST ROSEWARNE UNITED MINES.

Sir,—Having seen notice in your valuable Journal respecting these mines, I beg to add a few remarks in further illustration thereof. The situation is immediately west of Rosewarne United Mines, which is likely to prove one of the richest concerns in Cornwall. At their bi-monthly meeting, on Tuesday last, the adventurers received a dividend of 3s. on every 25th part, or share, and at the next meeting 3s. per share will be paid, with a prospect of further increase in the dividend at subsequent meetings. Three, at least, of the lodes in Rosewarne United Mines pass into West Rosewarne United. One lode is called the south, or main lode, which is particularly rich, and which traverses these mines the entire length of the sett, about 400 fathoms; another lode, called, I believe, the north lode, on which there is a good course of copper ore, about 10 fms. below the surface, passes through a large portion of the content. Another lode, called Old Rosewarne lode, runs diagonally through the sett. From the fact that all this lode has been carried away for a certain length the sett will be reduced, and, for this part of the mine is not yet drained, it is naturally inferred that the company who worked it about 40 or 50 years ago must have found much wealth there. Another large lode (Belistan north lode) goes the entire length of the sett. Although these mines are only 20 fathoms below the adit, and the drifts very short, it has been asserted, that with ore at the present standard, the returns would have met the cost in the late working, when the standard was down to 80s. per ton. There is great encouragement derived from the material fact that the south lode in Rosewarne United Mines is very rich, and goes into the mines. Belistan Mine, at the western side of these mines, was very rich a few years ago, and will probably prove so again when properly explored. Consolidating all these facts together, it is fairly presumed that this will prove an eminently successful adventure. Such are the expectations entertained respecting it, that I find the shares are readily taken up, and will shortly, no doubt, be at a premium. A respectable mine agent, unassociated, writes me as follows:—"I find that you are one of the party of adventurers determined vigorously to carry on operations for the development of that very promising piece of ground bearing the name of West Rosewarne United. I feel glad that this locality again becomes notable for its extensive deposits of mineral wealth, and I hope you will allow me to express my warm wishes towards the success of your operations. I am well acquainted with the mine, and have been underground there on several occasions since the suspension of the same by the former party, and can bear testimony to the fact that there are several well-defined lodes traversing the sett; and I have no doubt, if operations are carried on with energy and economy, and in a miner-like manner, the shareholders will be remunerated for their outlay.—Cumborne, April 3.

JOHN TAYLOR.

WEST ROSEWARNE UNITED TIN AND COPPER MINES.

Sir,—I experienced great pleasure in reading a paragraph, in your last Journal, on the subject of the West Rosewarne United Tin and Copper Mining Company, wherein reference was made to the open and honourable manner in which the committee of management propose to carry out the undertaking. Well acquainted with the immediate locality of these mines, I wrote to an intelligent friend in the district for information respecting the sett and their indications, and for his unbiased and candid opinion as to the prospect of success. His satisfactory reply induced me to visit the office of the company in Cornhill, where I was at once afforded an opportunity of examining the cost-book, and of inspecting the plan and section of the mines. Having thus satisfied myself of the legitimate character of the company, and pleased with the frank manner in which I was received, I became a subscriber for shares in the undertaking, with the firm impression that I had made a valuable investment, and that, if the committee, in the progress of the works, evince as much energy as they have displayed prudence and forethought, I shall realise a considerable return upon the capital I have embarked.

Guided by the feeling that the mineral produce of this country constitutes a great element of national wealth, I am surprised at the depressed state of the mining market, and of the apathy with which some of the best mining investments are now viewed by men who, were the unhappy war in which we are engaged terminated, would rush to market, and purchase, with indiscriminate zeal, shares in all the worthless schemes with which it would then be deluged. Alternate elation and depression—alternate wild speculation and apathy—appear to be characteristics of our countrymen; and the judicious speculator ought to bear in mind that what was improved the value and price of our mineral productions, and that it is the imperative duty of all men who value the commercial preponderance of Britain to sustain, by a wise and discriminate selection, and consequent judicious investment, one of the great staples upon which the industry of upwards of 60,000 workmen and their families are dependent.

I am not an advocate for indiscriminate investments in mining, or other undertakings, and earnestly recommend the course I have invariably adopted, and shall continue to pursue, to ascertain by all justifiable means the merits, value, and prospects of any enterprise to which my mind has been directed, and when satisfied of its bona fide and

the West Rosewater United Mines, would, I am morally convinced, be received with attention and respect, the pursers, fortunately practical and scientific men, to whom the management of the undertaking, under due precautions and safeguards, has been entrusted.

NATIONAL BRAZILIAN-COCOAES.

The old shareholders have frequently seen with satisfaction the occasional situation that has been attracted to this extensive property; and the recent letter of Mr. Hitchens, in your excellent Journal, together with improvements in other South American companies, have again brought it into notice. Would not this be a happy time for placing the concern upon a proper and secure basis? If the opportunity be unimproved, the probability is that a few weeks will see the shares at their old figure—about 15. each. The reports from the mines cannot have occasioned the recent movement, as these are barren as ever.

So far as I have been able to ascertain, after long and patient attention, the following appears, as nearly as possible, the present condition of the property:—First, the present limited working has been accumulating balance against the shareholders of at least 150,000. This has to be met by Mr. Oxenford. Secondly, the estate owes Mr. Oxenford at least 30,000, and I have reason to believe that, if this gentleman, whom I never saw, could meet with a purchaser at a much less figure than the above, he would gladly sell the entire estate, to pay off existing liabilities; for though, intrinsically, the property may be very valuable, as now worked it is worthless. As to Mr. Oxenford rendering an account, there is a copious pamphlet to be had at the office, in which a certified balance-sheet is given; and I fear there can be no doubt as to the deep indebtedness of the company. Now, as it appears to me the only way of rescuing these fine estates from utter ruin is for the shareholders to ascertain and discharge the existing liabilities of the property, placing it under sound and vigorous management, and to raise a working capital of from 10,000 to 20,000, which would be absolutely essential to the proper development of the mines. As there are scarcely 9000 recognisable shares, it would be necessary that a call or contribution of 5l. per share should be furnished. Less than this would be futile, and leave the estates still mortgaged. This being done, reasonable expectation of good profits might be entertained; but otherwise, I can see no hope. It seems unreasonable that a 30l. paid-up share should be worth only 2l. in the market; but if the money has been spent, and the estate is in pawn, the matter is explained.

Let not the shareholders flatter themselves that relief is to be obtained without a contribution of 5l. per share. So far as I know, Mr. Oxenford is not too anxious to relinquish the property, and render an account, when any parties present themselves to receive such account, and discharge his just claims, as any other person would who has lent more money upon an estate than its market value.

I repeat that I have no personal knowledge of Mr. Oxenford, and my only object in this communication is to prevent the indulgence of delusive hopes, and to stir up the shareholders to join in a vigorous effort to rescue from irretrievable alienation a property which otherwise may soon be totally lost to them. I am of opinion that my statements cannot be disproved, and that they are not exaggerated.

AN OLD SHAREHOLDER, AND YOUR CONSTANT READER.

THE AVE MARIA GOLD MINING COMPANY.

Sir,—The vagaries of the respectable directors of this company have been deservedly and unadvisedly upon by many gentlemen in your Journal. These have told us how the directors have paid themselves, and the revelations of the Court of Bankruptcy proved the truthfulness of the assertion. I also have told your readers, and the shareholders in particular, through the same channel, that these directors have, at the same time, left the poor men and their dependent families to starve. My best, though feeble, efforts to obtain some redress for those wretchedly impoverished people have been nobly supported by the humane single-mindedness of Mr. Guedalla. Thus have I been able to obtain the names of the directors, and beg you to permit them to speak for themselves in letters of one man, which I have received from them. The facts are but simply told, yet they are heartrending facts, that require no scholastic embellishment.

The committee of investigation appears to me but an empty name at best. For what possible value can be attached to the counterfoil of a check-book, to which their investigation, as I understand it, has been limited, than to check the bank account? It cannot sufficiently inform the committee for what purpose such money was paid, and consequently can be no evidence of the honesty of the men who used those checks. Possibly some of these checks were issued for the payment of the engines and the machinery; where is such machinery now? The value of that machinery, which was never erected, would pay the poor men their due, and relieve many a shareholder of conscientious misgivings on this subject.

Again, they are said to have paid Mr. O'Connor some 4000l. for an interest in the New York gold quartz vein; what is to become of such interest? I will not go further into these matters. The committee may, by and by, tell us some of these things, and give a summary of the assets. I will now tell the men a truth or two, by your kind permission; and would beg them most respectfully and most earnestly to solicit for the following the attentive perusal of the shareholders, and of those gentlemen who form the committee of investigation in particular.

W. KATHORNE GILL.

Mr. GILL.—Sir: The post has just brought me your letter: I thank you for your promptitude, and now write you an answer, as you desired, by return of post. I am sorry you find the Ave Maria at so low an ebb—a company for which we risked our lives. I did think there would be honest men enough left, though one man has died and two or three become bankrupt, to pay us our just due. It is a mere trifle to a company, but a serious loss to a poor man. They appear to be evading our claims in every possible way. They have now been due over two years, and no nearer being settled than when we first made our demand. Mr. Halford promised two of our men, who saw him last summer in San Francisco, that he was coming to England, and would do all in his power to see the men paid what was due to them; and he told me the same, the last time I saw him. You can only do what you can, doubt, repeatedly have done—ask them, and perhaps get the old answer of "not at present." There are but three of us in England, and I am the only one capable of writing, and that but badly; but I can tell them facts, plain facts, which, if they knew, and had one spark of honour or honesty about them, would make them blush for their conduct, and not only so, but their conduct would be exposed to the world, and any one coming to such a conclusion. I can only reiterate what I said in my last, relative to the families of the men. One of their wives, who lives very near me, has a family of nine small children, and is entirely dependent on the kindness of a shopkeeper, who has kindly supplied her with necessities, knowing and trusting that the Ave Maria Company can and will eventually pay her husband the money they owe him, when he knows he would be sure to be repaid. He told me himself, that he did not supply them they must have applied to the parish, or, perhaps, gone into the Union; and that with a family of nine small children, whom he served faithfully, his husband between one and two hundred pounds for the last two years. This is not a solitary case, but unfortunately one among many. I do not wish to be personal, and give names, but would do so if required. I think you said you showed my letter to a gentleman named Guedalla. I have seen his letters in the Journal in your behalf, and beg to thank him for his kindness, and hope he will not let the matter drop, as publicity, perhaps, will do more good than anything else. Apologising for so long a letter, I remain yours, respectfully,

JAMES M. RUNDLE.

AGUA FRIA GOLD MINING COMPANY.

Sir,—I enclose a copy of a communication received from a shareholder in this company, who has visited our mine at Gold Hill, in the belief that if you can find space to insert it in your valuable Journal, it will prove an interesting, not only to one shareholder, but to the mining community generally, as it has been gratifying to the directors. I need scarcely add that, although the directors have been, and are, most anxious to accelerate operations in California, they had no intention at the meeting of expressing any censure whatever on Mr. Attwood, in whom they have the most confidence.—London, April 4.

W. J. VIAN, ESQ.

TO THE DIRECTORS OF THE AGUA FRIA COMPANY.

GENTLEMEN,—A question having been put to me, yesterday, by one of your honourable body, which I found it difficult to answer without some little consideration, I assure myself that you will not consider it intrusive that I reply to it somewhat more in detail. The query was concerning the company's works at Gold Hill. Not being either a civil or mining engineer by profession, I approach the matter with some diffidence; however, circumstances put me in the way of remarking, and I am not altogether unacquainted with the theory and practice of mining, and I have visited the various mines opened, or tried to be opened, in Grass Valley.

My acquaintance with Mr. Attwood was entirely casual, and did not amount to intimacy, so that no undue partiality can dictate when I state that, according to my humble judgment, a better, more competent, and more careful agent than that gentleman could not have been appointed. I have always held, and frequently expressed, this opinion, which is strengthened by that of many of his own profession, who are better able to judge than I. As I fear certain remarks may have been made, which might be misunderstood, yesterday, by some of the proprietors, and perhaps may be construed into misgivings, leading them to imagine that Mr. Attwood has been spending money out of all reason, and as such notions are not apt to improve by keeping (as others similarly situated as Mr. Attwood may be, have sometimes found to their cost), I submit to you that the object of ultimately saving expense in repairs was hardly sufficiently considered in the statement of causes of outlay; and I respectfully add that the construction of the mine would have been hindered by ill-considered plans and hasty constructions. Our agent did not get into this fix, at any rate, as he is apt to cause delays in compensation for any saving of either time, money, or trouble. I will risk as much as to aver that I shall be supported by any mining engineer, when I say that, provided nothing be needlessly done, nothing can be too well done, and that had your agent acted as one of your honourable board suggested, thinking that a rougher worker might have done the same work to greater advantage, his haste must have inevitably impeded his progress. There are plenty of such rough workers in California, but one might (with diffidence) as soon expect a square-headed mathematician to construct a mine, or a man to be able to properly and without losing to grief, to conduct extensive mining operations underground, or to establish the necessary works above ground. Mr. Attwood is absent, and professional capabilities are tender points in men who probably depend upon them for a livelihood; and I am sure that your honourable board will unanimously agree with me that unlimited and unquestioned confidence should be reposed in your agent.

I hope that few or none of our shareholders will require such an argument; however, it is as well to offer it—viz., that in case any one should distrust Mr. Attwood's capabilities, it will do himself no good to express it. It is not entirely irrelevant to this subject to state that many, if not all, of the mine agents were placed in a very false position (Mr. Attwood, for ought I know to the contrary, as well as others). Meetings were convened, companies formed, and amount of capital advertised, and the agents landed in the regions of hickory hams and wooden nutmegs, with directions to lose no time, and having 60,000l., 80,000l., or 100,000l. pinned, as it were, on their backs; and (to use a Californian phrase) "before they'd time to skin their eyes." Many of them found themselves possessed of no end of good road-making stuff, at a rate proportioned to their known means. Our agent did not get into this fix, at any rate, as he took care to get good mineral; and the selection of his mines reflects equal credit on his discrimination and on that of the directors who appointed as agent a man so entirely qualified in every department of his business.

March 31.

R. BLIGH SINGLATE, late Captain H.M.S.

Gas.—Mr. A. B. Berard, C.E., of Paris, in describing his patent for the manufacture of gas, coke, and other products from coal, and in apparatus for that purpose, says—"If the coal be surrounded on all sides by the heat, the gases will be driven to the centre of the mass; in accordance with this principle, I have succeeded in advantageously collecting the volatile and gaseous products from a considerable mass of coal, by establishing the outlet for the gas in the centre of the mass. The distillation is conducted by the inventor in closed vessels, inaccessible to air."

Meetings of Mining Companies.

BRUCUTU GOLD MINING COMPANY.

A meeting of shareholders was held on Saturday at the offices of the company, 34, Lime-street, City. Mr. TULLY in the chair.

The notice convening the meeting having been read, the chairman expressed his deep regret at the absence of their esteemed and valued friend, Mr. Duval, who had been compelled, in consequence of severe illness, to retire from the direction, and he hoped—for he knew the anxiety of Mr. Duval for the success of the undertaking—that the vacancy would not be filled up until they knew for certain that his health would permit him to resume office.

The minutes of the last meeting were then read and confirmed, and the following statement of accounts for 12 months ending 31st March, was presented and passed:

| | |
|--|-------------------|
| 1854. Mar. 30. Cash at bankers | £430 4 2 |
| Petty cash | 5 17 3 = £435 1 5 |
| April 6. Cash for 250 shares per C. V. Duval, Esq. | 31 5 0 |
| June 15. Loan from four directors | 110 0 0 |
| July 22. Product of 17 oza. 5 dts. 49 grs. gold sold in Brazil | 63 8 5 |
| and remitted by agents | 54 7 6 |
| Balance of accounts remitted by agents | 12 9 4 |
| Furniture sold on removal of offices | 12 9 4 |
| Total | £707 11 8 |

| | |
|---|--------------------|
| Expenditure since March 30, 1854. | |
| Balance of expenditure at Brazil, trial of mine, voyages, &c. | £471 4 7 |
| Home agency, &c. | 94 5 0 |
| Salaries in London (one year) | 26 5 0 |
| Directors' expenses to 31st May, 1854 (since discontinued) | 18 9 7 |
| Office expenses | 36 5 0 |
| Rent of office (five quarters) | 36 5 0 |
| Printing orders for distribution, advertisements, newspapers, stationery, &c. | 29 7 7 = £675 16 9 |

Leaving balance in hand..... £ 31 14 11

The CHAIRMAN then referred to Captain Wm. Treloar's report after his trial of the mine, and which he observed confirmed the previous reports and testimony of Mr. Halford, a German mining engineer of high standing and great experience in Brazil, of Capt. Joel Hitchens, Verran, John Hitchens, and Thos. Treloar, of the St. John del Rey Company. Capt. Wm. Treloar has a previous knowledge of the property, from his having resided at Cocoes; and although he had perused the reports of the gentlemen previously alluded to, he had made his own examination, taken his own measurements, and prepared his own plans and sections. The conclusions which he had come to were, in his own words, "not only unbiased, but formed as if he had never seen the opinion of others."

The following is an abstract of Capt. Wm. Treloar's report, which is an elaborate production, and evidences a scientific and diligent investigation:

"ESTIVA, OR GONGO FORMATION.—Whether the name of this formation was derived from any similarity it bears to that of Gongo, I know not, but I find it is more frequently referred to by the name of Gongo than the Estiva formation. It is next in order to Brucutu; it is at the north of it 75 m., and the separating rock is ferruginous sandstone; its thickness varies from 210 to 102 ft., as near as I have been able to ascertain it, widening westward, and converging to the point eastward. Its underlie is about 46° south, but this I have not been able to arrive at with any degree of accuracy. On it there is one *talho aberto* of about 160 fms. long, but it may be said to have been only skimmed along the surface. How many gold-bearing lines are comprised in it I have not been able to discover, for the *talho aberto* is a ruin, but I am informed that it contains ore, and that near the western end one of the shoots on it has been mined below the bottom of the *talho aberto*. Near the eastern end an old Brazilian, well acquainted with the locality and the ancient miners who worked here, states that another very rich shoot was worked down to the water, and there the operation ceased for want of means of getting it out. Believe this, because the position of the shoot is near the point of convergence, and because the formation presents all the characteristics of containing good deposits of gold—many of my samples produced most encouraging proofs of this."

An old factor of the Cocoes family states that he worked on this shoot, and that it was rich. This is unmistakably a continuation of that at Cocoes, and if it be remarked that the result obtained from it by the National Brazilian Mining Association on their estate offers no encouragement, I answer that there is a wide difference between this formation at Brucutu and at Cocoes. There the Cocoes Company purchased the property upon the fame it had acquired by the quantities of gold already extracted—and once extracted it could not be bad again; whereas here this formation is in a virgin state. Such, however, I am persuaded would not have been the case had it been covered by a stream of water, or by the method of the Brazilian system, which then have been applied to the examination of it; but an examination by systematic mining, and by which this jaunting information must be explored, is beyond their knowledge. This formation runs through the estate; it offers great facilities for exploring it, and timber is close at hand. The heavy rains, common to this country, have, in the course of ages, scooped out immense ravines, which, as well as the valleys below, have been washed for gold. This is a true indication of the auriferous character of the formations, and it is this that the miners have been conducted to nearly all the mines in this country. The forests are sufficiently extensive for the requirements of the mine for many years, and a great deal of the timber is of the best quality. The pastures are excellent, surpassed nowhere in the Brazil that I have seen. The whole estate, excepting just along the summit of the mountain, is carpeted with grass, well suited for the feeding and grazing of cattle. I believe there will be little if any difficulty in hiring blacks to work this mine. The period allowed me for the examination of such an extensive mining property has not been so ample as I could have wished; still I have crossed-out, dig, and sampled so much, so carefully examined the valleys and ravines, made plans and sections for bringing the estate before the public, and obtained so much information, that, feel notwithstanding, I have handled as it were the formations tangibly, and that I am, consequently, in possession of a good deal of solid knowledge relative to them. I have mentioned that the jaunting formations of Gongo Soco, St. Miguel, and Cocoes, are imbedded in the same range of ironstone. The jaunting may be said to be disposed in beds, some of them having a much greater longitudinal extent than others, but widening westward, and converging to almost a point eastward, presenting a figure analogous in some measure to a chain of wedges. This geological fact is a very desirable feature, for the great deposits of the mine for many years, and a great deal of the timber is of the best quality. The pastures are excellent, surpassed nowhere in the Brazil that I have seen. The whole estate, excepting just along the summit of the mountain, is carpeted with grass, well suited for the feeding and grazing of cattle. I believe there will be little if any difficulty in hiring blacks to work this mine. The period allowed me for the examination of such an extensive mining property has not been so ample as I could have wished; still I have crossed-out, dig, and sampled so much, so carefully examined the valleys and ravines, made plans and sections for bringing the estate before the public, and obtained so much information, that, feel notwithstanding, I have handled as it were the formations tangibly, and that I am, consequently, in possession of a good deal of solid knowledge relative to them. 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editor of the company be instructed to oppose such petitions, and that if an order is made, to apply to discharge the same." That Mr. Anthony William Clarke was in the chair at this meeting, and afterwards, at a meeting of the committee of management, agreed to the payment of Mr. Tucker's costs of £500, on the withdrawal of his petition for winding-up the company in the Court of Chancery. Because this meeting considers that it is inconsistent with the character of a man of business, that Mr. Anthony William Clarke having been elected by the shareholders of this mine to wind-up its affairs, should have drawn out from the funds of the company a sum of 50 guineas, as a remuneration for his services, without the consent of the shareholders, who alone could appreciate such services, or make such a grant; and that, having been obliged to refund this sum, so unjustifiably appropriated to himself, and having been removed from the committee of management, he should have given notice to the bankers of the company not to honour the cheques of the committee of management, and subsequently should have filed the said bill in the Court of Chancery, to the annoyance of the shareholders, he having taken care to receive the 5s. per share on the shares held by him before such bill was filed, whereby other shareholders, who had not received the 5s., are stopped from receiving the same, and the committee is prevented from speedily and peaceably winding-up the affairs of the company, without an appeal to the Court of Chancery, which threatens vexatious expense and delay.

"That, under all the circumstances, the committee take the necessary steps to stay the suit in Chancery instituted by Mr. Anthony William Clarke, in order to save the funds of this adventure being wasted in unnecessary costs of Chancery proceedings."

Mr. JOHN HUGH JONES seconded the resolution. Mr. CLARKE said it was quite clear that a personal attack was made upon him, and he would, therefore, trouble them with one or two remarks. When he occupied the chair, he distinctly stated that they would pay 6s. per share, and a sum would be left to investigate the affairs, by which means a much larger return would be obtained. He also stated that the committee were willing to refer the matter to two gentlemen, and abide by their decision, and forego any legal proceedings. He (Mr. Clarke) felt it his duty to adopt the course he had done, and which would enable the shareholders to receive 10s. or 12s. more per share, as, with the exception of Lake Bathurst, there were no such defalcations as those in the Australian Freehold, but the accounts had been so ably and clearly kept by Mr. Fulsford, the secretary, that he would have very little difficulty in proving his case. With regard to those unfortunate shareholders who had not received the 5s., he warned them at the meeting to lose no time; unfortunately several had neglected to do so, and were now too late, although the inconvenience was only temporary, as they would not only be paid the 5s., but a much larger sum, and no honest man could agree to wind-up the company without investigation. One of the directors, after taking 4000l. out of the funds of the company, being allowed to retain his seat at the board.

Mr. FARMER JONES said, Mr. Clarke proposed to return to them, through the medium of the Court of Chancery, 18s. out of 30s. Now, any one who considered the subject would not believe such a statement. Mr. Clarke complained that the resolution was personal, but they could not act otherwise—Mr. Clarke was a whole corporation. The Chancery notice served was in the name of Mr. Clarke, on behalf of himself and all other shareholders in the Australian Freehold Gold Mining Company. He (Mr. Jones) had gone carefully through the accounts, and he believed, if all the differences could be obtained it would not be more than 700l., and to contend for it in the Court of Chancery would cost three times that amount.

Mr. GONCOW said, when they were called together, and agreed to take the 5s. per share, he considered the shareholders were binding themselves to the winding-up of the concern; and although a large shareholder, holding upwards of 500 shares, when he received that amount, it left upon his mind the impression that he was taking it to avoid all law proceedings. (Hear.) At the meeting, it was suggested that Mr. Tucker should withdraw a suit that was considered friendly, but surely it was never supposed that that would be withdrawn, and a hostile one commenced. He belonged to several companies, started under higher auspices, that had not paid one shilling in the pound. He hoped they would agree to the resolution, which would be the best answer they could give to the Court of Chancery, that it was the unanimous wish of the company that the suit should not be proceeded with further. (Cheers.) Mr. CLARKE asked Mr. Spalding whether, when his bill was taken off the file by Mr. Tucker, it was done with his consent; and whether, by the withdrawal of the bill, he considered the directors were to be left off.

Mr. SPALDING said the bill was withdrawn without his consent or knowledge, and that they had no business to do so.

The CHAIRMAN said it would be of advantage to the shareholders to get as much back as possible, but if they carried on the proceedings in Chancery there was little doubt they would last much longer than he should; and, perhaps, he might be wanting in affection for his great grandchildren, preferring receiving the money himself. Mr. TARRANT said it might appear invidious to name an individual, but the object of the shareholders was to convey to the Court of Chancery their sentiments and opinion of Mr. Clarke's conduct. The main benefit to be derived from the present meeting was to let the Lord Chancellor know the feelings of the shareholders. Mr. CLARKE says, why not mention other parties? Would he have Mr. Harding mentioned, who was employed by them as an accountant, and writes a letter to the *Mining Journal* that he had never bought a share, although Mr. Harding and his clerk, on the day of the meeting, remained in the outer office until they were turned out, purchasing them at 1s. per share, and by that means obtained 7000l.

Mr. HUGH JONES wished to ask Mr. Raymond whether Messrs. Harding and Tucker, at a committee meeting, did not propose to him to commence certain proceedings, for the purpose of putting a large amount of money in their own pockets?

Mr. RAYMOND replied that such a proposition was made to him, but not at a committee meeting. The resolution was then put and carried, with one dissentient (Mr. Clarke): The number of registered shares, the holders voting in their own right, were 15,695; Mr. A. W. Clarke, 395—majority for the resolution, 15,300.

Votes of thanks to the chairman and committee of management terminated the proceedings.

RED DRAGON MINING COMPANY.

A meeting of shareholders was held at the offices of the company, King-street, Cheap-side, on Wednesday, Mr. P. SENS in the chair.

The SECRETARY read the notice convening the meeting, and the minutes of the last, which were confirmed. A statement of accounts was exhibited, which showed—

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|---|--------------------|
| Mine costs, merchants' bills, rent, &c. | £245 0 0 |
| Balance at bankers | 2 12 6= £247 12 6 |
| Balance from last account | £ 65 3 4 |
| Capital account | 129 15 0= 194 18 4 |
| Balance due to pursers | £ 52 14 2 |

Mr. ANDREWS then read the following report:—

In accordance with the instructions of your chairman, J. Sunley, Esq., Mr. C. Martin proceeded to Dinas Mowddwy on the 24th of September last, to superintend a commercial operation on 50 tons of gossan. He first thoroughly examined the machinery, and being satisfied that it was in good working order, on the 25th of September he commenced operations. The gossan was weighed off under the superintendence of Captain Bray; who, also with one of our men who had been engaged in the erection of the machinery, weighed off and put into the machine between 1300 lbs. and 1400 lbs. of mercury, that you had sent down for the experiment; however, on its completion, when we looking for the means of arriving at a satisfactory result, and which, from the admirable working of the machine itself, we had every reason to expect, it was discovered that from the peculiar qualities of the gossan a large quantity of the mercury had been carried off, thus rendering the experiment futile, as was explained to you at your meeting on the 14th of November last. The experience gained from this experiment, and the confidence we felt, both in the principle of the machine and the surferous qualities of your gossan, induced us at that meeting to guarantee you against more than a commercial loss of mercury, if you would provide sufficient for another experiment, so fully were we convinced of the result; to this proposal you assented. The magnitude of the interests involved, and the commercial importance of the trial, if successful, were such as to demand from us the most careful preparation, and we have every reason to congratulate you upon the result that has been attained. In January last, Mr. C. Martin again went down to prosecute this important experiment, and to make the alterations necessary to be made by a fresh treatment of the gossan; these alterations he completed, but, after spending some time at the mine, the severity of the weather compelled him to suspend his operations; which were, however, resumed after a delay of three weeks. As in the former experiment, the gossan and mercury were weighed off under the superintendence of Capt. Bray, 1445 pounds of mercury being put into the machine. On completing the amalgamation, the mercury was drawn off and placed in the trays of the retort, which had been previously used for minor experiments, and was found to work admirably. The evaporation was then continued until the residue left in the trays had been distilled; the mercury was then reweighed in the presence, and with the assistance, of Capt. Bray, when we found the result 1360 lbs., and, consequently, that it had sustained a gross loss of 6 per cent. The residue, consisting of gold dust and debris, left in the distilling trays, was then collected, enclosed in paper, and sealed by Capt. Bray, and delivered so sealed by Mr. Martin to Messrs. Johnson and Matthay; the ingot of pure gold now presented, weighing 9½ ounces 9 grains, is the commercial result, being equal to 8 dwts. per ton of gossan.

The arrangements that had been made were, as a matter of necessity, only temporary in their character. Perfect machinery, for the purposes of crushing and triturating, is as complete as can be desired; but, as an amalgamator, it is not perfect, and we have little doubt but that that part of the process must be conducted by a totally different arrangement. To meet this deficiency, we have, as the result of experiment, designed and patented an apparatus, simple and efficient in construction, which will involve no loss of mercury, while its operations can be conducted with about 1-10th part of that used in the present experiment; and being small and compact, it can, by its peculiar construction, be erected in the laboratory under the charge of a responsible person, thus securing a great desideratum. In order to satisfy ourselves of the surferous character of the gossan, and of the possible results under a perfect system, and with the advantages which improved scientific knowledge may secure, we made a very careful commercial experiment on 50 lbs. after it had been washed, and obtained a result equal to 1 os. 13 dwts. 16 grains per ton of gossan in its natural state; this is, perhaps, the highest possible estimate of what the Red Dragon gossan will produce, and the great object will be to draw as nearly to it as possible. We would not, however, lead the shareholders to too sanguine an expectation at present of its attainment; but, doubtless, a much nearer approach can be secured than that obtained in the present experiment.

In an assay of the tailings only 1 dwl. 5 grs. of fine gold per ton of gossan has been washed away; the great discrepancy which appears proves the impurity of part of the process, while, at the same time, it guarantees the shareholders a highly remunerative property, capable of great improvement. The great fact, however, which this experiment establishes is, that gold mining in this country can be prosecuted at a very handsome profit; as, including every contingency, the cost will not exceed 20s. per ton, and that a realisation of 10 dwts. only will leave a clear profit of 100 per cent.; while, from the inexhaustible supply of auriferous gossan which you possess, we believe you have one of the most valuable mining assets in this kingdom, only requiring judicious management, and a well-arranged plant, to be highly remunerative as a commercial investment. (BARRATT; EXALL; ANDREWS: *Kettles-grove Iron-Works, Reading, April 3.*)

A SHAREHOLDER wished to know how many of the 4000 original shares were taken and paid upon?

Mr. SMITH replied that the whole were taken up, with the exception of the 135, which it was proposed to forfeit.

Mr. STEPHENSON wished to know whether any gentleman was in attendance from Messrs. Barratt, Exall, and Andrews, who could give any further information?

The CHAIRMAN said Mr. Andrews was present, as also Mr. Martin, who had assisted in superintending the operations.

Mr. ANDREWS did not think he could add anything to the report, but would guarantee the perfect integrity of the experiment; and as the head of a large manufacturing concern, he would stake his character upon it. (Cheers.) The great discrepancy in the yield clearly showed that there was a large margin left for improved machinery, by which he was satisfied the yield would be considerably increased. Mr.

Martin might be able to give the shareholders any information they might desire better than himself.

Mr. MARTIN said he could not add to the report, which was a plain statement of fact. Everything had been done with the greatest care, and as strictly as possible: 1445 lbs. of quicksilver had been distilled to obtain the piece of gold on the table, and the action of the retort was admirable. The operations were conducted fairly and openly, but rather than make any remarks he should be happy to answer any questions that might be put to him by shareholders. Mr. Martin, in answer to questions by several shareholders, said the operations were conducted at the mine; he saw the gossan dug out, and was of opinion there was no possibility of any party putting gold into the machinery or quicksilver. His full conviction was that a far greater result would be obtained in the future working of the mine. What had been hitherto done was the minimum and not the maximum return, and yet it showed to be a good commercial undertaking.

Mr. CROSLAND said he saw the gossan put into the machine, and after hearing the report by Messrs. Barratt, Exall, and Co., who, for respectability, stood second to none in the kingdom, the shareholders must place the greatest confidence in what they had heard. He (Mr. Crosland), upon visiting the mines, felt satisfied that every shilling had been expended there, and whether the adventure turned out good or bad, the shareholders were dealing with honest men, and that their proceedings throughout had been straightforward.

The report was then unanimously received, adopted, and directed to be entered on the minutes.

Mr. DOLAN next moved that a committee of four be appointed, to consider what steps should be taken for carrying on the mine, and to report to an adjourned meeting, to be held on Friday, the 13th April next.

After a lengthened discussion, Messrs. Crosland, Hemaley, Stephenson, and Fenton were appointed the committee; and the proceedings terminated with a vote of thanks to the chairman.

PENCORSE CONSOLS MINING COMPANY.

The eighth general meeting of shareholders was held at the office of the company, 19, Guildford-street, Leeds, on the 30th March.

Mr. JOHN MARSHALL in the chair.

After the usual preliminaries, the following report of the committee was read:— Since the last meeting, on December 23, considerable progress has been made in developing the mine and returning the ore, notwithstanding the late severe weather, which greatly retarded surface operations on all mines.

With respect to the sales of ore, the results are certainly most satisfactory and encouraging. The first sale of copper, which came from the adit and shallow levels, realised 10s. per ton, the best quality, 5s. 6d. per ton; the late sale of 11 tons, from the greater depth, produced 12s. 6d. per ton. The first sale of lead was at 9s. 6d. per ton; the late sale fetched 12s. 1s. 6d. per ton, notwithstanding the late decline in price. For the zinc ore we obtain the same price as before, and now find no difficulty in its sale, the quality being approved of by the smelters, as appears by their letters—a cargo being now in order.

The quantity sold since December amounts to 4141. 11s. 3d., for which bills have been received, and a cargo of upwards of 100 tons now in course of shipment (say, 225t., making a total for zinc of 639t. 11s. 3d. Lead paid for in cash, 28t. 17s. 4d. Copper sold, but not yet paid for, 186t. 13s. 6d. The gross sum of ore actually sold since December is, therefore, 805t. 2s. 1d.

The report of the captain states, in one month he will be able to send off another cargo of 100 tons of jack. These facts, your committee think, must be received as satisfactory. Your committee have at length secured the parcel of ground lying between the western part of your works and Mr. Eny's land, of which the grant had already been obtained. They have already paid 50l. on account of 100l. for entering (it will be recalled Mr. Kettellick demanded 200l.), and are put into possession. The captain reports the value of the ore in the end at present 3 tons per fathom of jack and copper, or 6t. 15s., at the lowest price; this can be worked at 1l. or 1l. 5s. per ton. If we extract the ore by the method of dressed since Christmas, it will be found as nearly as possible 3s. per ton. Our dressing party costs about 15s. per month, and dress about 100 tons of jack, besides copper and lead, which allow as extra. The carriage to port and quay dues, 5s. 6d. per ton, at that rate, from Kettellick's land, will probably cost on board ship about 15s. or 16s. per ton. As soon as the ground is laid open for stoping, the quantity may be greatly extended, without further cost, as the levels are driven and no shaft yet required.

It will be seen from Capt. Dale's reports that the stopes in the eastern ground are yielding ore as usual; a little improvement and diminution has taken place in the others, but will always necessarily occur. In the 35 ends have not yet been driven so far as the point at which we expect to meet with the ore gone down in the upper levels, though they have already cut a little jack and flookan—both evidences of a good kind. However, ere long they will be under the bunches gone down, when your committee hope the expectations of all will be realised.

A report from Capt. John Dale and John Edwards was read, and a detailed statement of accounts was submitted, showing that after the whole of the merchants' and other bills had been paid, an available balance of 553t. 15s. 3d. was in hand.

The CHAIRMAN stated he felt great pleasure in calling the attention of the proprietors to the gratifying report just read, from which it would be seen the sales of ore were not only rapidly increasing, but the quality of the ore was steadily improving, as the works increased in depth. The mine was now giving sterling proofs of what might be expected, and although their hopes were somewhat delayed, yet they felt perfectly convinced they were progressing satisfactorily, and that ere long they would be realised; but all mining matters were works of time, and required more than ordinary patience for their development. If he might be allowed to judge of this by other speculations in which he had been concerned, he must admit it presented a striking and favourable contrast. He believed few mines had in their first year sold as much as 1500t. worth of ore, and few at such depths returned a better price than 12s. 6d. per ton. Under such circumstances, he really congratulated them on the present position and appearances of their property.

A SHAREHOLDER said he had been on the mine two or three times, and he could assure them their engine plant, and all the surface operations, were of the most substantial kind, as proved by the engine (50-in.) and machinery not requiring a shilling for repairs since their erection. He had himself, as the outset, gone underground, and examined the lode in the adit level, when he saw the lode was rich in jack. They had now proofs the lode increased in value in depth; the mine was, in point of geological situation, all that could be desired; and the opinion of all the eminent capitalists who had inspected the mine was, it had the elements of a good concern, and the reports of sales was a good proof of the correctness of that opinion. He had no doubt whatever that Pencorse would, by and by, be the most valuable property, and amply repay them for their outlay. He felt quite assured that a shilling had been squandered or laid out carelessly, but the most judicious economy had been exercised in every department, and he had every confidence in the agents and officers of the mine.

The report, statements, and accounts, were received as highly satisfactory, and the committee desired to take such steps as they saw necessary to enforce immediate payment of unpaid calls.

A call of 2s. per share was made; and it was decided that, in future, in the notices of calls it be specified that if not paid within 14 days the committee will be compelled to enforce payment, the delay in the payment of the late calls having led to serious inconvenience.

The salary of the secretary was fixed at 45l. per annum, to be advanced to 60l. as soon as the mine becomes dividend-paying.

The utmost cordially pervaded the meeting, and every shareholder present expressed his perfect satisfaction at the proceedings and state of the company's works. Thanks were voted to the chairman, for his conduct in the chair and his devotion to the interests of the company generally, and to the secretary, for his attention to the shareholders, and the information he at all times readily affords respecting this mine.

GREAT CAMBRIAN MINING AND QUARRYING COMPANY.

A meeting of shareholders was held at the offices of the company, Threadneedle-street, on Tuesday, Mr. WILLIAM E. TUCKER in the chair.

Mr. JENKINS having read the notice convening the meeting.

The CHAIRMAN said their affairs had arrived at a position, that it was necessary to come to the determination either to preserve the property, to bring in more capital to pay off the liabilities, or decide upon winding-up; and it was for the purpose of arriving at the opinion of the shareholders as to the course to be pursued that the present meeting was convened. In order that every information might be afforded, they had kept Capt. Hogan in town, and he was now in attendance, to give any explanation as to the present and future prospects of the mine. Since the last meeting one circumstance occurred, which threw a new light upon the adventure. At No. 6 shaft, quartz, richly impregnated with gold, had been discovered, and a letter received that morning stated it was still increasing. He would remind them that the mine was in that part of Merionethshire where geologists were of opinion that gold to some extent existed; it was, therefore, for them to consider whether they would wind-up, or subscribe a sufficient sum to develop what was considered a very valuable property. Capt. Hogan had had the management since December last, but during the winter months the force employed had been small, and the progress made not very great. He (the chairman) would now call upon Capt. Hogan to read the report.

Capt. HOGAN then read a report, which appeared in the *Mining Journal* of the 24th March last; and, in answer to questions by shareholders, said he had worked at Cwm Darren, Gwynedd, and Llanurion, and the Great Cambrian Mines were in similar strata; but in Merionethshire no mine had yet been properly tried in depth. The appearance at the Great Cambrian were as good as any mine he had seen either in North or South Wales, and, in his opinion, they ought to sink deeper on No. 6 and No. 3 lodes. The adit level would come into the shaft at about 25 or 30 fms., and they were now down only 12 fathoms. They had to drive the adit about 70 fms. to reach the shaft.

Mr. MOSCOR wished to know what amount per month would be required to carry on the mine, supposing they employed from 30 to 40 hands—Capt. HOGAN replied about 1000l. per month; but at present they only required from 12 to 16 miners. They had 20 tons of lead ready for market, and 3 tons of copper; they had been raising the last two months sufficient to pay expenses.

Mr. HILL said he knew parties willing to contract for the stone if the quarries were worked.

The CHAIRMAN said, when the company was first started they had great hopes of profitable results from the quarry; but from certain representations they had been induced to devote their attention to the lodes.

Mr. GULL remarked that all showed they should not stop, and the question was, how it should be carried on?

The CHAIRMAN said, no doubt both the mines and quarries were valuable, and it was only for the shareholders to say whether they would keep them or not. He had hoped to have laid before them the report of Captain Paul, but he was still unwell, although he promised, as soon as possible, to inspect the mine. He (the chairman) concluded by reading several letters from shareholders, expressing their willingness to pay a call to prevent the property being given up.

Mr. GULL stated that they had cut down the expenditure as much as possible, the present office would be discontinued in June, and they expected the London expenses would not exceed 500l. a year.

Mr. MOSCOR said the general opinion appeared to be that the mines were good; he would, therefore, move, "That the mines being considered by competent persons to be of a very valuable character, it is highly desirable that the property should be further developed, and, with that view, the committee are of opinion that their brother shareholders should not allow so valuable a property to be parted with, and that a call of 2s. 6d. per share be paid into the bankers, Messrs. Prescott, Grote, and Co., on or before Friday, the 31st inst. But before putting the resolution, he wished to know whether the directors were willing to take shares at par for the advances they had made, and thus cancel the debts due to them, which would materially reduce the liabilities.

The CHAIRMAN said he had conferred with Mr. Moscor upon the subject, and the

directors had only one object in view—to bring the adventure into profitable working. He (the chairman) believed he was speaking the sentiments of his brother directors, in saying they were willing to take for the money they had advanced shares at par, and throw themselves into the same boat with the other shareholders. (Cheers.) The resolution was then seconded, and carried unanimously.

Mr. MOSCOR said the next proposition he had to make was, that the adventure be reduced to 20,000 shares.

Mr. JOHN TUCKER seconded the resolution, which was carried unanimously.

Mr. GULL said the object of the directors had been to reduce the expenditure as much as possible, and they had been greatly assisted in their endeavours by Mr. Moscor, who had kindly offered to perform the office of a secretary gratuitously; although, when they got into a dividend-paying state, he was certain the shareholders would not forget to reward him; as it showed his earnest to get the mines out of the present difficulties; he had, therefore, great pleasure in moving that Mr. Moscor's liberal offer be accepted.

The CHAIRMAN, in seconding the resolution, said, if the adventure should turn out as he fully expected it would, very profitable, he was sure the kind manner in which Mr. Moscor had come forward would not be forgotten.

The resolution was then carried with applause.

Mr. MOSCOR having briefly returned thanks for the expression of confidence in him, The CHAIRMAN said the next business was the appointment of the committee of management, when the following gentlemen were unanimously elected:—The Hon. C. J. Skeffington, Messrs. W. E. Tuke, J. W. Gull, John Tuke, and John Moscor.

Mr. BAILLY proposed, and Mr. CURTIS seconded, a resolution—"That the present certificates of shares in the company be called in, and that they be placed in the name of the secretary in the cost-book, and that fresh certificates be given by him in exchange." It was also resolved—"That the present offices be given up, and that those of Mr. Moscor, in Finner's Hall, Old Broad-street, be the temporary offices of the company."

The proceedings then terminated with a cordial vote of thanks to the chairman and directors.

COMPANY OF COPPER MINERS IN ENGLAND.

The annual general Court was held at the London Tavern, on Thursday, Sir JOHN DEAN PAUL, Bart. (Governor), in the chair.

The minutes of the former meeting having been read and confirmed,

The CHAIRMAN stated that, pursuant to their annual custom, the directors were present to render an account of their stewardship to the proprietors. During the past year, owing to the high rate of wages, the stagnation in trade, and the decline in prices, the year's trading transactions had not been so prosperous as they could have wished. However, they had made a profit of 24,504l. 1s. 2d., which would enable them to declare a dividend of 7½ per cent. on the preference shares, and 1 per cent. on the consolidated stock—the one-half payable on the 27th inst., the other moiety on the 27th Oct. ensuing. It had been determined to raise the preference shares from 8000 to 12,000; they had, therefore, offered 4000 for allotment, and the result was they had applications for 5000; they had allotted these preference shares as fairly and as nearly as possible. Each allottee, with the exception of the copper ore, they always paid in cash, and he was happy to be able to state that their property was unencumbered. They proposed to raise the salary of the secretary to the sum of 300l. per annum. He hoped that the company would have heard nothing more of Mr. Lord. They were aware that this gentleman had a claim against them, which was left to arbitration: an award of 1000l. had been given to Mr. Lord, which he did not accept, and he had filed a bill in Chancery individually and collectively against the company. He was happy to say that in this affair no other proprietor was mixed up with him. With regard to the claim of Mr. Wood, that had likewise been submitted to arbitration, and they could expect the award daily. It might be remembered by some of the proprietors that gas-works had been established on their property at Cwm Avon by a private individual, and which supplied their establishment; these they had obtained, giving for them 135 of the preference shares of the company, so that this had been effected without any outlay of capital. Although the Court of Assistants had not published any accounts which, as a trading company, they thought would be highly injurious to them, yet they were open to the shareholders, who could any day inspect them at the offices.

The auditors' report was then read, which stated that the valuation of stocks had been taken most accurately at Cwm Avon by Mr. Gilbertson, the managing director, that of the bad debts, the sum of 443t. 3s. 6d. had been recovered, and the accounts, both at the works and London office, were kept most accurately.

It was moved by Mr. FALK, and seconded by Mr. RICKARDS, that the auditors' report and chairman's speech should be confirmed, and entered on the minutes.

Mr. COX then moved that the Court of Assistants should be authorised to declare a dividend of 7½ per cent. on the preference shares, and 1 per cent. on the consolidated stock—the one-half payable on the 27th inst., the other moiety on the 27th Oct. next.

Mr. FOWLER felt great pleasure in seconding the motion; at the same time, he must state that he should much like to have seen some statement of accounts.

The CHAIRMAN observed that these could always be seen at the office; they were open for the inspection of every proprietor.

Mr. ASHTON YATES could bear testimony to the accuracy with which the accounts were kept. He had himself examined the books, but it was not to be supposed that gentlemen engaged in mercantile pursuits had the time and opportunity to investigate long and elaborate accounts.

Mr. CORBRIDGE observed this was not a writing, but a reading age. He did not wish to say that he should tell the public what should be on tin, copper, or iron. What he thought was highly necessary was, that they should have a balance-sheet, which should be printed, and circulated among the proprietors previous to the day of the meeting.

Mr. RICKARDS would urge on the Court the necessity of publishing accounts.

The CHAIRMAN observed that, if they were to do so, in all probability it would provoke competition.

Mr. WEDGWOOD said the same story had been told him when Mr. Gower was governor: Capt. Macdonald had said they were about to pay 7½ per cent., and a few weeks after he was told they were insolvent, and in the hands of the Bank of England.

Sir JOHN HENRY FELLY must remind the gentleman he was alluding to the old Court. He must tell him that this was an entirely new body; in fact, he was the only member of the old Court.

Mr. HUGH was of opinion that the accounts should be laid before them; he disliked all hole and corner proceedings. At present their stock was almost valueless; brokers would not purchase it, or bankers advance money on it. If they had that publicity which the Court seemed so much to dread, such would not be the case, and their property would be considerably enhanced in value.

The CHAIRMAN observed that the Court were entirely in the hands of the meeting; they had prepared a balance-sheet, which, if they desired, the secretary could read.

The balance-sheet was then read by the SECRETARY, which showed that the gross profits had been 26,241t. 0s. 11d., and the liabilities were 18,136t. Of this sum 12,000l. was part of the purchase money, running over a term of six years, and 6000l. for copper ore bills.

Sir John Dean Paul, Bart., was re-elected governor; Sir John Henry Felly, Bart., deputy-governor; Capt. Beauchamp H.N. Moscor, W. Gilbertson and I. F. Kenard assistants; and Messrs. Beattie and Whisman auditors.

Mr. PITCHARD moved the following resolution:—"That in the opinion of this meeting, the bill filed by Mr. Lord is most frivolous and vexatious, and deserving of the highest reprobation."

This was seconded by Mr. WEDGWOOD, and carried unanimously.

A vote of thanks was given to the Governor, Deputy-Governor, and Court of Assistants, and the meeting terminated.

INNEY CONSOLS MINING COMPANY.

A meeting of shareholders was held at the offices of the company, Moorgate-street, on Thursday, Mr. JOSEPH CARY in the chair.

The SECRETARY read the notice convening the meeting, and the following reports from Captains Paul Jenkins and A. H. Patterson:—

April 2.—I send you my report of the work done underground since the last general meeting. The 20 fm. level has been driven 17 fms. 5 ft. 6 in. west from the engine-shaft, on the course of the lode. In driving this level, the lode being hard, we drove by the side of the lode, leaving it standing for 6 fms. from the incline-shaft east, when we holed this level from the incline-shaft to the engine-shaft; the lode yielded good saving work, and as it is now standing we can break it at any time, and send to grass, which will pay very well for the stamps. We have driven east at the bottom of the incline-shaft, to meet the end coming west from the engine-shaft—lode 5 fms. 5 ft. 6 in. We have driven 7 fms. west from the incline-shaft, in the 20 fm. level, on the course of the lode, which is very promising, indeed. I never saw the lode look so likely to make a bunch of ore as this does at the present time. We are getting back very near the cross-course which the old men cut in driving the deep adit level. When they cut this cross-course they met with a good lode of ore, which we may also expect when we cut it in the 20 fm. level. The lode at this time is yielding good stones of ore. This end is a very kindly speculation indeed, and promises, when we intersect other lodes further west, good result. The incline-shaft is sunk 5 fms. 5 ft. 6 in. to meet the 20 fms. level, and the lode at the shaft at this time is very muddy, which is a very good sign. The lode is going down much straighter than ever it did before, which is also a very favourable sign; the lode is 3 ft. wide, yielding good stones of ore occasionally. I should recommend this shaft to be sunk with all possible speed, as it is going down in the principal place for making an improvement; and as the lode has changed its underlay under the 20, we must sink the engine-shaft 29 fms. under that level before the lode will come in the shaft. I cannot exactly estimate the quantity of ore at grass, as it is in different piles, and is covered up. We have not broken any great lode since the last meeting, for we have left the lode standing. I think the quality is very good. Our machinery is working well, and I have never seen it in better order than at present.—P. JENKINS.

April 3.—I have much pleasure in stating that the incline-shaft and the 20 fathom level are both looking very kindly, and that the shaft is producing good saving stuff. The amount of ore at surface I calculate at 60 tons, but the quality is so various that, till by the erection of the stamps we have an opportunity of dressing it, it is difficult to say how much clear ore it may contain. Should the lode in the 20 fm. level continue its present underlay, it would cut the engine-shaft about 29 fms. below the 20 (that is, 23 fathoms below the present end); but should the lode keep the underlay it has near the cross-out, it will cut the engine-sh

BRITISH MINES.

NORTH DOWNS.—We have timbered and secured Bennett's shaft from the surface to the deep adit level (42 fms.), the sinking from the adit to the 10 required no timber, as the shaft is completed to the bottom, and when the water, which is at present 5 fms. above the back of the 10, shall have gone down, we shall prepare to resume the workings. We do not anticipate that the water will rise much higher either in the mine or in the county adit; that, consequently, the water will not be so much higher as it was some time back, and that it will be less than it was some time back. We regret to say that nothing new has occurred in the old pitches in West North Downs. —J. PAINCE: March 31.

NORTH WHEEL BASSET.—In the 112 fm. level, driving east of the new shaft, the lode is 3 feet wide, producing 1 ton of ore per fathom. In the 112 fm. level, driving west of the new shaft, the lode is 3 feet wide, producing 1 ton of ore per fathom. At the new shaft, sinking under the 112 fm. level, the lode is 4 feet wide, producing yellow ore throughout. In the 42 fm. level, driving west of Grace's, the lode is 5 feet wide, producing 3 tons of ore per fathom. All other parts of the mine are without alteration. —T. GLANVILLE: March 31.

NORTH WHEEL ROBERT.—The masons are making good progress in building our engine-house, and all other surface operations are pushing on as fast as possible. We received a good wagon load of timber from Bayley and Son this day. No alteration to notice in our ends and stops since last week. At the Trial shaft, the lode continues its size, with good spots of lead in it. —A. PAVON: April 3.

—The lode in the 62 is about 2 feet wide, producing saving work. No lode taken down in the 42 this week; the rise and stops in back of this level will yield 2½ tons of ore per fathom. The lode in the 30 and west is about 3 ft. wide—good saving work. The stops in back of this level are producing 2 tons of ore per fathom. The masons are making good progress in building our engine-house, and all other surface operations are pushing on as fast as possible. We sampled, on Friday last, computed, 81 tons. —A. PAVON: April 4.

OKEL TOR.—An improvement is taking place on the copper lode in the 20 fathom level east; the large quantity of muddle hitherto seen in the lode is found to be leaving, and the copper ore increasing in it. The men have resumed driving east again on its course, at 54. per fm. In the 20 fm. level west the end is in the flockan of the silver-lead lode; there are 2 fms. more to drive here to cut the main part of the lode, set to drive at 34. per fm. In the 35 fm. level we are in daily expectation of cutting the silver-lead lode; there is a beautiful stratum of ground in the present end, set to drive at 54. per fm. —W. B. COLLOM.

PEDANDEA UNITED.—We are in for this day to the 68 fm. level, west of the engine-shaft, on the engine and Skinner's lode; we have still 9 feet to drain to the bottom of the 68 fm. level at the engine-shaft, the eastern level being that much deeper than the western. We find the tin continuing in the end of the ground as deep as we have drained, and equal in size as when last reported. The lode west of the engine-shaft, on the engine lode, is very large, and will produce a quantity of tin, producing saving work for tin; this lode seems to be standing in whole from the 68 to the 47, but the end is driven through. I have put two men to cut through the lode in the 60, this end being about 25 fms. west of the shaft; the lode in this end is 3½ to 3 feet wide, producing rich stones of tin, and from every appearance cannot fail to produce a large amount of stamping-stuff. We have been north of the engine and Skinner's lode, in the 68 fm. level; the lode east of the cross-course is 1½ to 2 feet wide, the lode in this level is tiny. I cannot inform you of its value, or the extent it is driven on, the lode being in deep water; the north cross-course is still continuing north on the cross-course towards the north lode. We find the engine-shaft filled with stuff in the 68 fathom level, consequently we shall have to rid the shaft to get at the 65 east of the same. We have a pump put on, and the summen engaged to rise with all speed; we have 9 feet to clear up, and we calculate in the coming week to complete the job, and drain the level east and west. Our tribute is much the same as last month, and other things on the mine much as usual. We have 30 tons of tinstuff (average work) on the floor, which will be offered for sale to-day. —J. DELABRE: March 31.

PENBROKE AND WEST CRINNIS.—There is no alteration worthy of notice in the 20 east of Hunter's lode, since last reported; in the stops in the back of this level no lode has been taken down during the past week. In the 90, west of Reid's, the lode we are glad to say, is still looking promising; it is 2 ft. wide, and will produce 1½ ton per fm., worth 9d. per ton. We have nearly completed Reid's whin-shaft to the 142 fm. level, and shall commence to drive the cross-cut south on Tuesday morning next. —East Crinnis: In the 134, west of whin-shaft, the lode is 1½ ft. wide, unproductive; in the 134, east of engine-shaft, the lode is 3 feet wide, producing good stones of ore. The 122 east, on the main lode, is small and poor; the 122 west, on the main lode, is 2 feet wide, producing a small quantity of ore, but not enough to value. The stops in the back of this level are much the same as last reported. We have intersected Philip's lode in the 122 fm. level, cross-cut south; it is about 1 foot wide, unproductive, and have set to drive west on the same; we shall not drive east on this lode, as, by driving east on Job's lode, we shall intersect this lode. The 122, east and west of Job's lode, are producing small quantities of ore, but not enough to value. There is no alteration in any other of our levels since last reported. In the tin department we have taken down the lode, and drawn the tin to surface; the quantity is about 3 tons, and we consider it will produce 10 cwt. of black tin, the lode is 6 in. wide, and rich for tin, we have, therefore, set to drive the 30 east on it, at 70d. per fathom. The tribute department is much as usual. —W. ANKER: March 31.

PENQUEAN SLATE QUARRIES.—In another month or six weeks we shall set all the quarry in bargains. We are not producing much just now, as the men are principally engaged erecting new machinery, and laying down tramways. We shipped 50 tons of sawn and planed slabs last week, varying from 1 to 3 inches thick. —JOSEPH ASHWORTH: April 5.

PERRAN CONSOLS.—The 58 has been driven west in the past week 8 feet; the lode is 9 in. wide, yielding a little tin. The ground in the cross-cut driving in the 40 is changed for the better; should this improvement continue our progress will be much greater. We sampled yesterday 255 barrows of tinstuff. —J. RICHARDS; F. GUNDA: April 4.

RHOSSYD SLATE QUARRY.—Two months having nearly elapsed since we placed before the committee and shareholders, at some length, the particulars of our workings at Rhossyd, it is with much satisfaction we are now enabled to state that the promises we then made, and the opinions then given, are about to be fully realised. We have roofed up under the old quarry all the slate in all the quarries, as far as we are able to do so, and the entire of the quarry is all that can be wished. We expect 3 or 4 yards more roofing will bring us to daylight, when by some widening on top to the south, and other preparations, we shall by the end of April, or beginning of May, commence slate-making; and we again beg to assure all connected with Rhossyd that the high character we have from time to time given of our quarry is about to be proved—that nothing can be more gratifying to us, both as shareholders and managers, than the present prospects. —JOHN HARPUR; THOMAS JONES: March 31.

ROUND HILL.—We beg to hand you the monthly report of this mine. —In the 30 fm. level north we have driven 5 fms. 3 ft. 6 in., the lode in which has been discovered by alight ground. In the 20 fm. level, the winze has been sunk, being near the back of the 30, and now down is not up to the winze within about 9 feet, consequently we intend to put the men who were employed in the winze to clear out the 20 fm. level north of the winze. The 10 fm. level south has been driven 6 fms. 2 ft., through shale, in which no lode has existed, but it has intersected the east and west lode as shown on the plan, but existing as a joint in this confused ground. We have for the present suspended this end until we receive instructions from you; but, as stated in former reports, it is merely speculative; and from this point to reach the other east and west lode will be about 35 fathoms (as marked on the plan), which we consider too far distant, under present circumstances, it being in shaly ground, wherein a lode cannot exist, therefore we are not justified in recommending the driving this end. Our sampling for March has not realised our expectations, in consequence of the rods having broken several times during the month, being the old rods left in the mine by the former company, which has prevented the men from working by reason of the rods being in, and caused our sampling to be much smaller than it otherwise would be; but this will be remedied as early as possible, by altering the drawing list into a plunger, which will be done in a few days. The cross-cut at the Coppice shaft has intersected the branch, or lode, that passed through the shaft, and we have dilled it, and find it is not the Coppice lode. We intend driving a few fms. on its course, to prove it, after which we shall drive east to cut the Coppice lode. Our sampling for March is computed 30½ tons. —W. BARRETT; A. ROWSON: April 4.

SILVER BROOK.—The engine-shaft is now sunk 2 fms. 3 ft. 3 in., in which the lode is about 4 feet wide, composed of capel, spar, and carbonate of lime, with a mixture of lead and zinc ore, 2 ft. wide, worth 12d. per fm. The lode in the 33, driving south of engine-shaft, is not quite so productive as when last reported on, being composed of capel, spar, and zinc, with not so much lead for the present; the stops in the back of this level continue to produce good work for lead ore, worth 12d. per fathom. I have put two men to drive the 10½ fm. level a fathom or so south, as I have an opinion that the lead ore will come up behind the old workings, south of winze; but, however, we shall shortly prove this. The winze in Powell's adit is sunk 10 fathoms, the ground being much stronger for sinking. By sinking this winze 7 fathoms deeper, we shall hole to the 35 fm. level, when we shall have a ventilation through the mine. The lode in the end in Powell's adit, driving south, is at present small and poor. We have two men employed in putting up a fan to blow air up Powell's adit; we shall get this completed in a very few days. We are getting on with our dressing operations satisfactorily, and shall have 20 tons of lead ready for market by the end of next week. —S. MORRIS: April 5.

SOUTH CARN BREA.—We have no alteration requiring particular notice since last week. The lode at the flat-roof shaft is still producing grey and yellow copper ore throughout. —THOMAS GLANVILLE: March 31.

SOUTH CORK COPPER.—The 30 has been driven during the past month 7 fms. 3 ft. 9 in., making a distance from the engine-shaft of nearly 17 fms. There is a portion of grey copper disseminated through the lode, although I regret to say it is not so productive of copper as might be expected from its proximity to the old mine, but from present favourable indications, I think change will be long experienced. I hope before long to be able to inform you that a communication has been made with the old mine. The water in the old mine has been drained to the 22, which is as deep as it can be drained without incurring much additional cost; what remains below can, I think, be let off by holing to the 30 fm. driving, with perfect safety. I have some men employed in the old mine in stopping a piece of lode in the back of the 17, and have been obtaining during the past week. This is the only piece of ground we have yet discovered in the old mine worthy of notice; reports, however, as to very favourable in regard to the state of the lode in the bottom of the old mine. The dressing operations proceeded more satisfactorily last month. We have now 30 tons of ore on the floors dressed and ready for shipment. —F. TAYLOR: April 2.

SOUTH CRENVER.—At the flat-roof shaft, sinking below the 94 fm. level, the lode is 1 ft. wide, but poor. In the 94 fm. level, east of the engine-shaft, the lode is 1 ft. wide, producing stones of copper ore. In the 74 fm. level, east of the engine-shaft

the lode is 2 ft. wide, producing 3 tons of copper ore per fathom. In the 64 fm. level east of Gore's shaft, the lode is 3½ ft. wide, producing 4 tons of good copper ore per fathom. Our tribute pitches throughout the mine are much the same as last reported. —EDWARD CHOWIN: April 2.

SOUTH DEVON GREAT CONSOLS.—In the cross-cut, driving south from the engine-shaft, we are meeting with branches, which may be regarded as belonging to the lode; these branches are likely to unite in depth, and will probably effect an improvement in the lode. The part of the lode on which we are driving in this level continues to improve as we proceed towards the kilias. The cross-cut in the adit level is progressing fairly, in ground very congenial for mineral. —J. COCK: April 4.

SOUTH WHEEL TOLGUS.—The south lode at Mitchell's engine-shaft, is large and promising, producing some good stones of ore. The south lode in the 90 fathom level, east of ditto, is small and poor; the south lode in the 90 fathom level, west of ditto, is 13 in. wide, but poor. Youren's lode in the 78 fm. level, west of Mitchell's, is looking promising, but not yielding sufficient to value. Youren's lode in the 66 fathom level, west from ditto, is small and unproductive. The lode in the 30 fm. level, east and west of Morecom's engine-shaft, is poor. The lode in the 20 fathom level, east from ditto, is a large kindly lode, yielding some ore; the lode in the 20 fm. level, west from ditto, is small and poor. The lode in the winze in the 10 fm. level, west from ditto, is 18 in. wide, yielding 1½ ton per fm. —March 31.

SOUTH WHEEL YEOLAND.—At this mine no lode has yet been intersected in the cross-cut south; the calculated distance has been driven, and the cause of the non-appearance of the lode seems to be due to a small cross-course, which we have passed through, and which has, undoubtedly, shifted it a little out of its course. We have discovered a very promising lode about 7 fms. north of the one intersected in the north cross-cut; it presents a good appearance on the back, being composed of gossan, muddle, &c., and we have resumed the 33 cross-cut north to intersect it at that depth by six men. —R. WILLIAMS: April 3.

ST. AUSTELL CONSOLS.—To-day I set our tribute pitches on tin, and one tribute pitch on copper; we have another tin pitch to set in a few days. The 25 end east is still producing good work for tin, and the lode is large. I believe a few months will give our tin department a very encouraging aspect. In the 45 we have about 4 ft. more to drive to cut the nickel branch; this we shall do next week. The other parts of the mine are as last reported. You will receive a tin bill for 600, or 700, in a day or two. Down's shaft is now 5 fms. 3 ft. under the 15. I think our tin ground will soon begin to leave a profit. We have a very promising tin lode in the 25, going back west; this is quite new, and encouraging. The copper pitch is at Down's, and was readily taken by the tributers; they are in good spirits about the copper, the prevailing opinion being that Down's will, eventually, make a fine copper mine. —R. H. WILLIAMS: March 31.

TALIESIN.—Our proceedings for the past week are—Four men stopping the bottom on No. 13 lode, not quite so good in appearance as it was last week; two men stopping the back, much the same; five men stopping the bottom on No. 8 lode, east of No. 13, much the same, producing good ore; two men stopping the back, much the same; one filler, one bankman, one tramming to the crusher, one boy breaking stones, one blacksmith, one engineer; in all, eighteen men and one boy, besides dressing party, one dresser, ten boys, and two girls. One dressed, 2 tons. —W. WILLIAMS: March 31.

TEES HEAD CONSOLS.—I have no important change to report on this week. —T. DICKINSON: April 2.

TOKENBURY.—In my last I told you we were engaged in fixing a new angle-bob at the mouth of the shaft, the old one not being sufficient to bear the weight of rods any longer; this work is now completed, and I hope the water will be in for the 27 by Monday next; and I have a pair of men waiting to take on with the driving, soon as the shaftmen have forked the water to the bottom; this shall be attended to as fast as possible; by this you will see that the water underground has been much retarded during the past week.

TRELEIGH CONSOLS.—The ground in the cross-cut, driving north from Carr's shaft, consists of a light blue slate, with small surfaces of peroxide of iron in the points dipping towards the lode, which is considered favourable for mineral deposits in this district. The end is driven from the shaft 5 fms. 3 ft., and scarcely any water has made its appearance until yesterday; a present, a large stream is issuing from the bottom of the end, proceeding, no doubt from a branch, or Good Fortune lode, before us. Everything is arranged to recommence sinking the cross-cut, which the end named above is being continued driving, which we shall do on Monday next, by nine men, at 10d. per fathom. The engine works well, and keeps down the water, going rather less than one stroke per minute. —JOHN PRINCE: March 31.

TROEDHEWCAIR ABERNANT UNITED.—The men are progressing favourably with the driving of the deep level east cross-cut, in which the lode will now yield full 1½ ton of silver-lead ore per fm.; his lode is bearing 8° north of east, and has a nice underlie of 12 in. in the fm. The other parts of the mine are without alteration since my last. —J. HUGHES: April 5.

TREWETHA.—In the 40, north end, the lode is 1 foot wide, producing 6 cwt. of ore per fm. In the same level south the lode is 1½ ft. wide, producing 7 cwt. of ore per fm. The 30, north end, is not so good as when last reported, but producing some good saving work. The stops are producing much as usual. We sampled last Thursday, computed, 24 tons of ore. The summen are now making preparations for sinking, and I expect will commence in about a week. —W. HOWE: April 4.

TYWARDREATH.—The ground in the cross-cut, south of Taylor's shaft, is hard, the men are driving about 1½ feet a week; there is a flow of water in the back of the end, dipping north, and when we have passed through this I am in hopes that the ground will alter for the better; there is still a quantity of water coming out of the end. I have to-day set to the men to drive 4 fathoms, or for the month, at 9d. 12s. per fathom; the ground driven last month measured 5 fms. 0 ft. 9 in. —April 2.

ULPHA UNITED.—The stops will produce good stones of yellow ore. In the 10 west we have driven through some good branches of ore, which I think will prove very productive at a deeper level, as soon as the deep level is communicated through to the winze, which gives me full confidence that we shall at once work at a profit to the adventurers. —C. VINCENT: March 30.

UNION TIN.—Herewith you will receive the tin bill for march, 1477. 6s. 8d. The tinstuff still continues good, but we must use more ground, and sink deeper, in order to have a standing mine. —April 3.

VALE OF TOWY.—Our shaftmen are fully engaged putting in studies, and other timber, throughout Clay's engine-shaft. In the 30 fm. level, driving south, the lode is 4½ feet wide, composed of barries, brown, and occasional stones of lead; in the same level, driving north, the lode is 3½ feet wide (of which 2 feet on the west side is good work for lead), and will produce 25 cwt. of lead per fathom. In the 20, driving north, the lode is 3 feet wide, producing 25 cwt. of lead per fathom; the two last-mentioned ends have much improved lead since last report. In the winze sinking under the 20 fm. level north the lode is 2 feet wide, but poor. We sampled yesterday two parcels of lead, computed 10 tons. —S. THOMAS: April 3.

WELLINGTON.—The lode in the adit at Kenegny will yield about 1 ton of copper ore per fathom. No other alteration to notice. —M. WHITE: April 3.

WEST BASSETT.—North lode: In the 41 east the lode is 4 ft. wide, producing 2 tons of ore per fm. The 84 east produces 2½ tons; the 75 east 2½ tons; and the 42 east 2 tons of ore per fathom. —Engine lode: In the 30 fm. level east the lode is 2 feet wide, worth 3 tons, and the 20 fm. level east produces 1 ton, of ore per fathom. —South lode: In the 42 fm. level east the lode is improved, producing 3 tons, and the winze sinking under the same level produces 4 tons of ore per fathom. The 30 fm. level west is turning out 2 tons per fathom. The stops and pitches continue to look well. —W. ROBERTS: March 31.

WHEEL CREBOR.—The lode in the 54 and is still large, spotted with ore, how large we do not yet know, as it is too much to carry in the driving. The same may be said of the lode in the 44, with exception of more ore in the part carrying in the driving. The men are now driving by the side of the lode; it is a very promising lode. The lode in the two bottom pitches is turning out good quantities of ore, and the pitch to the back of 44 east of Rundle's shaft; also, the pitches to the back of the 12 west of Odger's winze. The other pitches are as usual. We sampled, last Friday, computed 55 tons, and weighed 40 tons 4 cwt. 2 qrs., making about 95 tons for Jan. and Feb. We intend to sample again this month if possible. —Wm. DOWLS.

WEST CRINNIS.—The lode in the 44 driving east of engine-shaft is shifted out of its regular course by a little cross-course; it will be again in the end after a few feet driving. The lode in the 34 end east has considerably increased in size, and letting down men watching the lode, the eastern ore ground is good (although it may require another month's driving to get much ore here), which is looking better for a good length in the level above. The 24 east has a good appearance, and producing a pretty deal of good ore. The 34 driving north-west on the counter lode is yielding occasional good stones of ore, rather improving as we extend; south-east end in this level, on the counter, the lode is 1½ ft. wide, ore very throughout. The new south shaft is sunk 5½ fms. below the 31. The stops, both on counter and Little Crinnis lodes, are yielding ore equal to any former period, and the mine generally has a pleasing aspect. —April 4.

WHEEL GOLDEN CONSOLS.—In the 17 fathom level, south end, the summen have extended from the shaft 2½ fms. through a splendid course of lead ore; present price for driving, 4d. The north end is extended 2½ fms.; lode promising, and ground favourable; price for driving, 5d.; the men driving this end have also a bargain to cut a barrow-road by the side of the lift, pte. 8d. In the 117 fm. level, the north end is extended from Young's shaft about 30 fms., through excellent ore ground, which will give space for three pitches of three men each, at tribute varying from 4d. 15s. to 2d. per ton; this is now much better, and may justly be called a splendid lode; price for driving, 5d. per fm. In the 117 fm. level, the south end is at present suspended, for want of labourers, and is driven 5 fms. from Thorne's shaft, and from all calculation must be approaching the ore dipping through what is called the California bunch. In the 87 fm. level, the end is poor and hard going south; cost of driving, 5d. It is important to drive this end still further, in order to ventilate the level extending above. There is one pitch south, and two north of Maxwell's shaft, set at 4d. 10s., 8d., and 8d. 10s., respectively. Maxwell's shaft passes through this course of ore, and in sinking it to intersect the level which is driving towards it below, splendid ground might be opened out, as the ground is dry for sinking. The 87 fm. level is extended 7½ fms. from Maxwell's shaft, the backs of the 7 fms. long present good tribute ground, which will be worked as soon as a communication can be made with the level below; this end, although poor for lead, is looking kindly; cost for driving, 4d. per fathom. Looking at the ore already opened out, and the flourishing state of some of the most important ends, together with the hopes so long sought after, at an extraordinary cost and time, and which is now near at hand, I must say the mine never was in such a way for realising it that has been expected of it as at the present moment. —W. BURGESS: April 3.

WHEEL GRENVILLE.—The lode in the 85 fathom level, driving west from the engine-shaft, is 3 ft. wide, and is much the same in character and appearance as when last reported. The ground in the 70 fathom level cross-cut, driving north, continues favourable, and the end is still letting out water. —March 31.

WHEEL MARSHALL (ST. STEPHEN).—A Godolphin, the lode in the stops under the adit, east of engine-shaft, is 2 ft. 6 in. wide, worth 10d. per fm. In the stop in the back of the 10 fm. level, west of shaft, the lode is 5 ft. wide, worth 5d. per fathom. In the stops still west of this point, the lode is 4 feet wide, worth 7d. per fm. The summen are still employed in clearing stuff from the levels; this part of the mine is looking well. We have cut the copper lode in the old workings, and are satisfied that good results will accrue from this shortly. —J. DALE; H. HARRIS: March 31.

WHEEL MARY ANN.—The lode in the 20, north of Pollard's shaft, is 2½ feet wide, and worth 11d. per fm.; in the same level south it is 4 ft. wide, and worth 12d. per fm. In the 110 north it is 3 feet wide and worth 13d. per fm.; the winze sunk under this level, and in the same level south it is 2 ft. wide, and worth 9d. per fm. In the 90 north it is 2 feet wide, and worth 8d. per fm.; in the same level south it is 2½ feet wide, and worth 10d. per fm.; the winze sunk under this level is communicated to the 100. Clymo's shaftmen are still employed in fixing the new

pitwork. The stops and pitches are producing much as usual. We sold on the 24 inst. a parcel of lead ore (computed 74 tons) to Messrs. Sims, Williams, and Co., and Messrs. Locke, Blackett, and Co., at 22d. 17s. 6d. per ton. —P. CLYMO; H. HOBBS; R. KNAPP: April 4.

WHEEL MAUDLIN.—The engine-shaft measured to-day 2 fms. 4 ft. 9 in. sunk, making 10 fms. 2 ft. 9 in. from the bottom of the 20; it will be necessary to sink about 2 feet further (which is the extent of our present lift of pumps) for a good fork, when we shall commence driving the new 30 fm. level; the sinking has been set to 12 men, at the rate of 16d. per fathom for the depth required, and the new 50 fm. level set to the same pace to drive east, 2 fms. extent, at 3d. 10s. per fathom; when this is done, the shaft will be divided, east &c., to bring the machine, kibbles, &c., to bottom. In the 30 the pit is cut, and the level continued, in order to get under where the shoot of ore is gone down to the bottom of the 20 fm. level. The 20 end east is driven 4 ft. 3 in., and the cross-cut south is driven 1 fm. 1 ft.; this is not set again, the men who were here being employed in the rise. The rise in the back is driven 5 fms. 2 ft. on the course of the slide, or flookan; set again at 1d. per fathom, 3 fathoms extent or hole, by four men. A new pitch has been set in the back in the 20 fm. level from the rise as far east as the present end, to two men, at 10s. in 17, for one or two months; the landing set at 3d. 5d. per 100 machine kibbles for the month. The pitch in the back of the 16 has been set to two men, at 1d. in 17; the filling has been set at 3s. per 100 machine kibbles for the month. No other change to report. —W. TREBAY: March 31.

WHEEL ROBINS.—The engine-shaft is now down 4½ fms. below the 53 fm. level. The sinking has been impeded, in consequence of the great accumulation of the frost about the engine-wheel; and then, again, when the thaw took place, a part of the wall of the wheel-pit fell, and obliged us to stop the wheel for several days to repair it. An alteration has taken place in the underlie of the lode at the shaft below the 53; instead of it being 4 ft. per fm., as it is at and above the 53, it is not more than 2 ft. per fm., at the bottom of the shaft, and much more kindly in appearance. This alteration in the underlie will shorten the distance between this and the north lode about one-half at the depth you purpose to intersect them. The lode in the deep adit end east is 2 ft. wide, and consists of peach and gossan, impregnated with muddle and rich copper ore. The tin tributers have made a very bad return indeed; Mr. Clogg has, no doubt, given you the particulars. In the past two months they worked in the back of the 20 fm. level, but will now begin to work in the back of the deep adit. —J. NANCE: April 3.

WHEEL RUSSELL.—We continue to drive the 62 fm. level, east from Matthews' shaft; the lode is 1 foot wide, containing portions of copper ore. I am not yet satisfied that it is the main lode, or the lode driven on in the level above, but this, I hope, we shall soon ascertain by making a communication with the winze sunk on the lode from the 50, about 6 fms. before the present end of the level. The driving of the 50 fm. level has been continued; the lode appears to be again improving, worth at present 1 ton of ore per fm. We continue to drive the 50 fm. level north on the cross-course, which has decidedly a very promising appearance, producing good stones of ore. We are in course of putting up a rise in the back of the 50 fm. level, to the east of the cross-course, which is at present turning out 24 tons of ore per fm. We continue to stop the back of the 50 fm. level, to the west of the cross-course; the lode is 4 feet wide, worth 24 tons of ore per fm. We have stopped the pitch in the back of the 50 fm. level, to the west, and adjoining the above stops, and have let it to stop on tutwisk; the lode at present is producing 2 tons of ore per fm. but will, I expect, after stopping 3 or 4 fathoms, yield full 3 tons per fm. We continue to drive the 37 fm. level east of Matthews' shaft; the lode, since my last report, has been intersected by a slide, which has disordered it, being broken into several branches, containing copper ore, but not of much value at present. The driving of the 90 fm. level north on the cross-course, towards the great north lode, has been continued; the cross-course has still a very promising appearance, producing good stones of ore. The pitches are without any material alteration to notice since last report. We sampled at Morwellham, on Friday last, 103 tons of ore. —A. BARNATT.

WHEEL SURPRISE.—Owing to the scarcity of surface water, there has been nothing done in the 33 fm. level cross-cut since last report; we have, therefore, placed the men to strip or cut down Fuller's shaft, under the adit level, but we are without any important alteration since I last wrote you. —A. BRAY: April 4.

WHEEL TREFUSIS.—Engine lode: In the 44 west the lode is yielding stones of copper ore. In the 34 west the lode is yielding stones of copper ore, with a very promising appearance. The lode in the 24 west is small and unproductive. —Field: In the 15, east of boundary shaft, the lode yields 1½ ton per fathom of copper ore, worth 9d. per fathom. In the 15 west, south part, the lode yields ½ ton of copper ore per fathom. All the ground that we have opened in this part of the mine would work on tribute. —Garden lode: In the 10 east the lode is small, and yielding little tin. In the 10 west the lode is small and unproductive. —Blakely's lode: In the 10 west the lode is unproductive. The tribute pitches are yielding much the same quantity of tinstuff as of late. —Z. CARKEE: April 4.

WHEEL TRELAUNY.—Smith's engine-shaft is sunk 5 fms. below the 108; the lode in the north end in this level is 1 foot wide, and worth 15d. per fm.; from the south level we have driven some 12 ft. wide in disordered ground. In the north end, in the 108, the lode is 18 in. wide, and worth 4d. per fm.; in the south end the lode is worth 8d. per fm.; in the winze sinking below the lode is 10 in. wide, and worth 10d. per fm. Chippendale's shaftmen could not conveniently proceed with cutting the pit by reason of the tributers, and other stuff which had to be drawn to the surface; they have for the last five days been stopping the back of the 88, north of the shaft; in the end driving north the lode is 14 in. wide, and worth 3d. per fm. The lode in the 40 south is at present disordered, but not without ore. —South Mine: In the 120, the lode in the south end is 20 in. wide, and worth 12d. per fathom; we are driving west in the capels of the lode. In the 107, south end, the men have been removed, and are now working on a part of the lode, where off to the eastern side of the level, where we have some 12 cwt. of ore to a fathom; in the north end the lode is more ready than it has been from the commencement of our present driving. In the back of the 92 the lode is worth 12d. per fm. The stops and pitches are much the same as heretofore. —W. JENKINS; T. GREENFELL: April 3.

WHEEL ZION.—We have completed casing and dividing the engine-shaft to the 80 fm. level; the men are now engaged in cutting pit, and preparing for sinking. We have no alteration to mention in the 66 cross-cut south. In the 50 fm. level we have driven south on the eastern wall of the great cross-course about 2 fathoms, but have not yet cut the great lode. The middle lode is still looking very promising in the 40 fm. level, west of the cross-cut, producing good stones of ore. The lode in the 30 fm. level west, is still looking well, producing saving work; and the same lode in the eastern end, in this level, is producing 2 tons of good ore per fathom. We are forcing the masonry for the drawing and crushing engine, that we may be quite prepared for the engines. We thought to have sampled on Friday last; but having several tons of ore in way of dressing, which we could not bring about in time, we think it best to sample next sampling, when we shall put in 60 tons instead of 33.

YEOLAND CONSOLS.—Our prospects and condition at this mine are much improved since the general meeting. The winze we were sinking from the 36 to the 46 has been holed, and we are in a position to stop away the lode in each end of the same; it is of good quality, being worth from 15d. to 20d. per fathom. Having got through the troublesome pieces of ground in the 46, we are now driving the cross-course of the mine by six men; the lode here is producing good work. The 56 is being driven east by six men on the course of the lode, which is of good quality. The 36 is being driven east by two men; the lode here has improved, being composed of peach, priam, and sufficient tin to save; there seems to be a new course of tin ground coming in in this direction. We shall now have a good supply of better work for stamping, and, on the whole, I feel very confident of success. We shall commence sinking under the 56 next week, which will effectually drain the lode, and greatly facilitate our operations. —R. WILLIAMS: April 3.

MINING IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA.—Since our last summary, the works at the Barra Barra Mine have been resumed with great activity. The great engine, of 250-horse power, has been set to work to pump out the water, and has performed well, has succeeded in raising the water level with great rapidity, and is now for coal. The levels have been examined, and the mine is pronounced perfectly secure. The company is giving employment to many miners as can be obtained, and the prosperity of the mine is at present only limited by the scanty and costly supply of labour. A reward of 2000l. has been offered by the Government for the discovery of a good coal-field, and of 1000l. for the discovery of an anthracite or lignite coal-field. Whether or not there is coal in South Australia is a question which, in our profound ignorance of the geology of the country we inhabit, we cannot answer, though it is a question of the greatest importance. The discovery of a good coal-field, or of a rich gold diggings, would develop our known mineral resources, and give a most beneficial and permanent occupation to mechanical skill. Notwithstanding the inducement offered for the discovery of a rich gold-field, none has hitherto been discovered. Ehunga it still the only diggings we possess, though the number of diggers there has considerably increased, of late. No great gains are obtained at this gold-field, but steady and persevering hands find it more remunerative, on the whole, than the average wages of labour. —South Australian Register, Jan. 31.

THE GIANT STEAM SURPASSER.—(From a Correspondent.)—A wood carver, named Henry Anderson, of Preston, Lancashire, and in former years a member of the Deaf and Dumb Institution, Old Trafford, Manchester, after years of study and toil, has succeeded in making an engine that will work either on steam, or on oil, or on coal, the same as our locomotives. He is in a position to satisfy the most incredulous as to its capabilities, and will with pleasure answer questions, not encroaching upon his main secret, that any practical gentleman may feel disposed to ask him, as to the possibility of his engine working and driving any weight that may be put to it, and superseding steam power, without the enormous waste of coal that this country is daily put to. If circumstances had been propitious, his engine would have been brought before the world at an earlier period; but feeling assured that he was competent to prove the fact to any favourable time, he has concluded that by keeping his invention secret till that time should arrive, it would only gain still further improvements and finish by the little delay.

WHEELS.—Mr. Peter R. Jackson, C.E., of Salford, has patented some improvements in manufacturing wheels, by which the heated iron, after having been placed in a suitable mould or die, is forced into the shape of the mould, and through grooves or channels radiating therefrom so as to form spokes, in some cases bent at their outer ends, making a continuation of each spoke form a portion of the felloe of the wheel.

AXLE-BOXES.—Mr. G. M. Miller, C.E., Inchicore, Dublin, has patented an improvement in axle-boxes and parts working in connection with axles of carriages and other vehicles in use on railways. The inventor claims—1. The form and arrangement of a certain upper grease-chamber extending along the under face of the step or bearing, either separate or in conjunction with the ordinary hole or holes and passages, together with a particular form of step and a guard at the back of the axle-box. 2. The application of a

The Mining Market; Prices of Metals, Ores, &c.

METAL MARKET, London, April 7, 1855.

| COPPER. | | | BRASS (sheets) . . . p. lb. | | |
|--|---------------------------------|---------|------------------------------------|---------|---------|
| Sheathing and bolts . . p. lb. | 1 1 2 | | Wire | 1 1 2 | |
| Bottoms | 0 1 3 | | Foreign | 23 10 0 | 15 0 |
| Old (Exchange) | 0 1 0 | | To arrive | 23 12 6 | — |
| Best selected | 129 0 0 | | In sheets | 28 0 0 | 28 10 0 |
| Tough cake | 126 0 0 | | English, blocks | 111 0 0 | — |
| Tin | 126 0 0 | | Ditto, Bars (in barrels) 112 0 0 | — | — |
| South American | — | | Ditto, Refined | 114 0 0 | — |
| IRON. | | | Banks | 110 0 0 | 112 0 0 |
| Bars, Welsh, in London . | 8 0 0 | 8 5 0 | Straits | 107 0 0 | — |
| Ditto, to arrive | 7 12 6 | 7 15 0 | TIN-PLATES. | | |
| Nail rods | 8 0 0 | — | IC Charcoal, 1st qua. p. bx. 1 | 10 0 | 11 6 |
| Stafford, in London . . | 8 10 0 | — | IX Ditto 1st quality . . | 1 16 0 | 1 17 6 |
| Bars, ditto | 8 10 0 | — | IX Ditto 2d quality . . | 1 8 0 | 1 9 0 |
| Roofs, ditto | 8 10 0 | — | IX Ditto 2d quality . . | 1 14 0 | 1 15 0 |
| Sheets, single | 9 5 0 | 10 10 0 | IX Coke | 1 5 0 | 1 7 0 |
| Fig. No. 1, in Wales . . | 4 15 0 | 5 5 0 | IX Ditto | 1 11 0 | 1 13 0 |
| Refined metal, ditto . . | — | — | Canada plates p. ton | 14 0 0 | 15 0 0 |
| Bars, common, ditto . . | 6 10 0 | 7 0 0 | In London; 20s. less at the works. | — | — |
| Ditto, railway, ditto . . | 6 5 0 | 6 10 0 | Yellow Metal Sheathing . . p. lb. | 11 1/2 | 12 1/2 |
| Ditto, Swedish, in Lond. | 14 0 0 | 15 10 0 | Wetterstedt's Pat. Met. . . p. wt. | 2 2 0 | 2 2 0 |
| Fig. No. 1, in Clyde . . | 2 19 0 | 3 0 0 | Stirling's or Hardened . . | 9 0 0 | 9 2 0 |
| LEAD. | | | Surface Rails | — | — |
| English Pig | 21 10 0 | 22 0 0 | Stirling's Patent | — | — |
| Ditto sheet | 23 0 0 | 23 10 0 | Toughened Pigs | — | — |
| Ditto red lead | 23 0 0 | — | Ditto | — | — |
| Ditto white | 23 0 0 | 23 10 0 | Indian Charcoal Pigs . . | — | — |
| Ditto patent shot . . . | 25 10 0 | — | In London | — | — |
| Spanish, in bond . . . | 21 0 0 | 22 0 0 | — | — | — |
| American | — | — | — | — | — |
| FOREIGN STEEL. | | | — | — | — |
| Swedish, in kegs to arrive | 18 10 0 | — | — | — | — |
| Ditto, in faggots . . . | 22 0 0 | — | — | — | — |
| English, Spring | 22 0 0 | 24 0 0 | — | — | — |
| QUICKSILVER . . . p. lb. | | | — | — | — |
| In Liverpool, 5s. per ton less. | 1s. 10d. | 11d. | — | — | — |
| At the works, 1s. to 1s. 6d. per box less. | In Liverpool, 6d. per box less. | — | — | — | — |

REMARKS.—Business continues to be transacted on a limited scale; nevertheless, with the exception of slight fluctuations, our market generally is steady.

COPPER.—The further orders given out by Government tend to keep the market firm. The exports to the East have been large; about 120 tons of cake and sheathing have been shipped on account of the East India Company.

IRON.—The enquiries for rails have caused some of the makers of inferior quality of English bars to quote higher prices, but in few instances have they succeeded in obtaining any advance; there are still sellers at 6l. 10s., f.o.b. at the works. Staffordshire qualities are dull, even at the recent decline. Scotch-pigs during the week have given way about 2s. 6d. per ton, business having been done in mixed numbers at 57s. 6d. cash, since which the market has slightly rallied, 58s. being now quoted by sellers.

LEAD.—There is more demand for this metal, and it is probable some good transactions may take place in the course of a little time.

SPELT.—The consumption is but moderate, and no speculative feeling evinces itself in our market. The stock announced on the 1st inst. in this port was 2886 tons, which is the smallest stock ever since Sept., 1849, when the price was firm, at 16l. to 16l. per ton.

TIN.—On the 2d inst. an unexpected decline of 3l. per ton in the price of English qualities was announced by the smelters, at which price the market is firm. Foreign has not given way to the same extent; in fact, Banca on the spot is rather better, if anything, sellers being very indifferent about selling; sales have been made to-day in Amsterdam of parcels at 64 1/2 fls. Straits is in good demand.

TIN-PLATES.—The shipments have increased.

STEEL.—Swedish keg wanted. No arrivals as yet.

QUICKSILVER as last.

GLASGOW, APRIL 4.—The anticipation of small shipments had a depressing effect on our pig-iron market on Monday, prices turning considerably in favour of buyers, as long as 58s. 6d. was accepted for cash. Up till this evening the feeling has remained dull, and operators evince very little desire to do business, times being too critical to induce people to speculate in the article to any great extent. Business has been transacted to-day at 57s. 6d. and 58s., usual cash terms, the market closing nominally at the latter figure. No. 1, g.m.b., 58s. 9d.; No. 3, g.m.b., 57s. 6d. Shipments for the week ending the 31st of March:—Foreign, 5082 tons; coastwise, 7035 tons=12,117 tons. In the corresponding week of 1854, they were—Foreign, 6091 tons; coastwise, 12,316 tons=18,407 tons.

LIVERPOOL, APRIL 5.—The makers, at the preliminary meeting on Thursday last, decided to reduce the price of manufactured iron 20s. per ton. As this reduction had been anticipated by smaller makers, it will only affect first brands. The demand continues light for both home and foreign, and seems likely to do so through the spring.—Pig-iron: Influenced by the supposed favourable indications of peace at the conference early in the week, the market steadily advanced from 57s. 6d. to 59s. 6d., at which considerable business was done. At this point, the operators for a rise lost confidence, and, on attempting to realise, buyers withdrew, and the market at once receded to 57s. 6d., closing very quiet and dull. The prices of Tin-plates are—Charcoal, IC, Liverpool, 1l. 12s. 6d. per box; Coke, IC, 1l. 5s. 6d. Merchant Bar Iron, in Wales, 6l. 15s.; and in Liverpool, 7l. 5s. per ton.

CHARLEVOIX, APRIL 5.—The Journal de Charlevoix states that their Metal Market remains nearly in the same condition. The Uaine de Couillet has been much inconvenienced, by being unable to obtain accommodation from the State Railway for the conveyance of the iron on order, and have even been compelled to have recourse to water carriage, and to borrow trucks from the North of France line. The publicity given to this fact has caused a satisfactory movement to be made by the authorities, with a view to the establishment of a station at Couillet, which was much required by the commercial population of the neighbourhood. At Lidge, there has been little business done in iron, but the demand for coal and coke continues active, and prices are firmly maintained.

PARIS.—The demand for all descriptions of iron continues extremely good, and the retail trade has greatly improved since building operations have been recommenced. The prices remain the same nominally, but transactions have taken place much below the fixed price. At St. Dizier, there have been numerous transactions effected, but in most instances holders have been compelled to accede to a slight reduction. Other metals, both at Paris and St. Dizier, remain much the same, with an upward tendency rather than otherwise.

MINES.—The chief business of the week has again been in dividend mines, which maintain their prices, and are in good demand. In North Basset, a rise from 17l. to 19l. and 19l. 10s., has taken place, owing to the very rich quality of the ores now for sale, and which, it is said, will realise upwards of 4000l., and enable the directors at the next meeting to charge three months' costs against two months' ores, and give, besides, a dividend of 5s. or 10s. per share. Wheal Basset have been done at 540l. to 545l.; Great Devon, 370l. to 375l.; South Franks, 352l. to 357l. 10s.; West Basset, 30l.; Rosewarne, 155l.; Wheal Wrey, 5l. to 5l. 2s. 6d.; West Caradon, 170l.; South Tamar, 6l.; Herodsfoot, 2l. to 2l. 10s.; Bedford United, 9l. 7s. 6d. to 9l. 12s. 6d.; Vale of Towy, 13s. to 15s., and in request, a still further improvement having taken place in the mine. North Crofty shares have risen from 6l. to 12l. and 15l. per share, owing to a rich discovery having been made in the 80 fm. level, where the lode is said to yield from 4 to 5 tons of copper ore per fm., and a winze below the 60 fm. level 15 tons per fathom. Nantoes and Penrhyn have advanced to 1l. 15s., 2l.; a great improvement has taken place here, in Eystumstead deep adit, and the 46 end east is yielding 2 to 3 tons per fathom. Tamar Consols, 2l. to 2l. 5s.; Tincroft, 2l. 5s.; Sortridge Consols, 2l. 15s. to 3l. Wheal Clifford is looking well, and at the meeting, to be held in Cornwall, on Saturday (this day), a dividend of 2l. 10s. per share will be declared. At the United Mines, the lode will soon be cut in the 220, where a rich course of ore is anticipated. At Great Consols, a further improvement is spoken of. Wheal Kitty (Uny Lelant) appears in demand, and the price has gone up to 12l. 10s., 15l. At North Wheal Vor, a fine discovery of tin, worth 80l. to 90l. per fm., has been made. At Llandudno, the returns for two months have realised 997l. 7s. 10s., the cost being 1036l. 1s. 9d.; the returns, therefore, are gradually increasing, and the mine may, before long, become very profitable.

The disheartening effects of the great fall in the price of lead ores are now being most sensibly felt, if we may judge from the results of meetings held during the present week. At the commencement of the war, an impression seemed to prevail that lead would rise in price, and greater profits be made from the mines. This has not been the case; on the contrary, the prohibited exportation, and the stoppage of building operations, have had an opposite effect, though we cannot think that to these causes alone are to be traced the present depression. According to the price of lead itself, the amount per ton given to the miners for their ores is considerably too low, and owing, we fear, to the want of proper competition in the trade. The Tamar Smelting Works have been for some time suspended, other

smelting firms are but indifferent buyers, and, in consequence, those who do buy get the ores at their own prices. At the South Tamar meeting, the dividend was 2s. 6d. per share, instead of 10s., which the prospects some months since led the shareholders to expect. The lead ores of this mine are very rich in silver, and, therefore, the depreciation in lead is not of that great importance which it is to other mines having but a few ounces per ton; still, the ores are fetching 6l. per ton less than formerly, a considerable item upon 100 tons per month. At Herodsfoot, the ores contain only 15 ozs. of silver to the ton, and the decline in price has had more serious effects. About twelve months ago, the ores were making 17l. 10s. and 18l. per ton; the price now obtained for the same quality ores is 11l. 10s. to 12l., not realising enough to meet the costs of the mine. The sales of the last quarter, owing to the stoppage of the dressing operations, were only 98 tons; but even this, at the old price, would have yielded a profit, whereas, owing to the decline of 6l. per ton (altogether 588l. upon the sale), there was a loss on the quarter's workings; and as the manager gave no hopes, under such circumstances, of meeting expenses, it was decided to suspend the deep workings, and limit operations to such points as would pay, and to take the opinions of the shareholders generally as to the propriety of going on with the mine, or of at once realising and dividing the assets of the company. Rix Hill, which was in the dividend list of 1853, if we hear, to be abandoned. The stoppage of these mines will render labour cheaper, and we understand there is a great probability of timber and other materials declining in value. For many months, it must be remembered, in addition to the low price obtained for their produce, the miners have had to contend against a rise of nearly 50 per cent. in their expenses, included under the heads of labour and materials. At Herodscombe meeting, it was stated that the lode from which great things were expected had been cut 10 fms. below the adit, but at the point of intersection it was poor; in driving upon it, it has greatly improved, and offers good prospects of success. The arrears of calls, it appeared, were so heavy, that those who had paid up were not disposed to make another call until the old one was cleared off, and a special meeting was ordered, to take future operations into consideration. Now that the machinery is all complete, and has been erected at great expense, the manager thought it would be a pity to abandon the mine at the present stage. It is well known that Herodsfoot returned many thousands pounds worth of lead at shallow levels, and Herodscombe, in the same district, is now only 10 fms. below the adit.

In the Bullion Market, Mexican and South American dollars, 4s. 11 1/2 per oz., nominal. Bar silver containing gold, all gold above 5 grains in the pound to be paid for, 5l. 6d. per oz. standard. Bar silver without gold, 5s. 0 1/2 d. per oz. standard. Bar gold, 77s. 9d. per oz. standard. Spanish doubloons, 77s. 3d. per oz. Columbian doubloons, 74s. to 74s. 3d. per oz. Fine cake silver, 5l. 5 1/2 d. per oz. Platina, 15s. per oz.

At Wheal Basset meeting, on Tuesday, the accounts for Jan. and Feb. showed—Balance from last account, 1173l.; ores sold (less dues), 9036l. 13s. 3d.; sundry disbursements, 9l. 0s. 6d.=9181l. 13s. 9d.—Mine costs and merchants' bills, 4028l. 2s. 3d.; income tax, 142l. 16s. 6d.; South Mine loss, as below, 199l. 12s. 6d.; by dividend (20l. per share), 513l.; leaving balance to next account, 728l. 2s. 6d. The South Mine accounts show—Mine costs and merchants' bills, 335l. 10s. 3d.; Ores sold (less dues), 128l. 17s. 11d.; showing balance against mine, 199l. 12s. 6d.

At Alfred Consols meeting, on Monday, the accounts showed—Balance last account, 1086l. 5s. 9d.; ore sold (deducting dues) 18th, 279l. 10s. 1d.; 4759l. 2s. 1d.=5345l. 7s. 10d.—Labour cost, December and January, 1578l. 12s. 2d.; merchants' bills, 1163l. 2s. 3d.; discount, 111l. 10s. 4d.; sundry advances, 187l. 10s.; on account of new engine, 600l.; income tax, 281l. 10s. 4d.; leaving balance in favour of mine, 2060l. 13s. 10d. A dividend of 2s. per share (1024l.) was declared, and the balance, 1036l. 13s. 10d., carried next account. The profits on the two months' working was 874l. 5s. 1d. Captain Matthew White reported that they had resumed sinking the No. 2 winze under the 120, where the lode was 5 ft. wide, but disordered by a small slide, dipping from east, and worth now 10l. per fm. The tribute department was the same as last reported.

At South Tamar Consols meeting, on Tuesday, the accounts showed—Balance from last account, 104l. 19s. 7d.; ores sold, 7809l. 5s. 4d.; floor-asp, 2l. 13s.=9456l. 19s. 11d.—Mine cost, Nov. to Feb., 6086l. 7s. 10d.; dues, 505l. 19s. 6d.; secretary's salary, office rent, &c., 75l. 0s. 6d.; income tax, 22l. 6s. 3d.; leaving balance in favour of mine, 2767l. 6d. A dividend of 2s. 6d. per share (750l.) was declared. The estimated balance of receipts over payments before the meeting to be held in July is 2852l. 5s. 10d.

At the annual general court of the Company of Copper Miners in England (Sir John Dean Paul, Bart., governor, in the chair), a dividend of 7 1/2 per cent. was declared on the preference share, and 1 per cent. on the consolidated stock, payable one-half on the 27th inst., and the other moiety on the 27th of October next. The trade profits on the year had been 24,504l. 12s. and 1696l. 10s. 9d. paid upon preference shares. It was resolved unanimously that, for the future, the balance-sheet should be published, and circulated among the proprietors, previous to the day of meeting. Sir John Dean Paul, Bart., was re-elected governor; Sir John H. Pelly, Bart., deputy-governor; Messrs. William Gilbertson, John Pierce Kennard, and Capt. Bosanquet, R.N., assistants; and Messrs. Beattie and Whatman, auditors.

At the United Mines meeting, on Wednesday, the accounts showed—Balance last account, 271l. 7s. 3d.; ores sold (less dues), 9036l. 13s. 3d.; sundry receipts, 251l. 7s. 10d.=9222l. 7s. 11d.—Mine costs and merchants' bills, 7944l. 6s. 7d.; balance of purchase of Consols materials, 1200l.; leaving balance in hand, 478l. 1s. 2d.

At Herodscombe Consols meeting, on Monday, the accounts showed—Balance last account, 200l. 16s. 8d.; calls received, 297l. 10s.=498l. 6s. 8d.—Mine cost, Dec. and Jan., 189l. 3s. 7d.; balance for steam-engine, 82l. 3s.; office expenses, three months, 13s. 2s. 6d.; leaving balance in favour of mine, 213l. 17s. 7d. The estimated balance of payments over receipts before the meeting to be held in July is 559l. 11s. 11d. Captain James White reported that he had recommended the shareholders to continue to drive to 21 and the 31 ft. levels. The machinery was complete, and in good order, and the monthly cost would be comparatively trifling.

At the Lovedon United Mines meeting, on the 29th March (Mr. C. G. Mantel in the chair), a number of letters from the agent (Capt. Trevelyan) having been read, it was resolved that the mine be not closed; and a special meeting was convened for 13th April, to decide on arrangements for vigorously working the sett.

At North Wheal Isidore meeting, on Wednesday, it was resolved that the mines be divided into 600 shares, and more active measures adopted for prosecuting the works. Capt. Richard Clymo, the agent, was present, and informed the meeting that North Wheal Isidore, in the 6 fm. level below adit, was producing some excellent work for tin, and the lode was raising fair quantities of ore. Capt. Clymo also reported that the lode was richly impregnated with silver, and that the lode presented appearances which justified him in saying that he would soon be able to return a parcel of tin to market. The tin already raised has gone far towards meeting the costs incurred.

At Carvannall Mine meeting, on the 29th March, the accounts showed—Balance from last account, 34l. 7s. 10d.; mine cost, Nov. to Feb., 737l. 5s. 4d.; merchant's bills, 498l. 2s. 3d.; discount, 111l. 10s. 4d.; sundry advances, 187l. 10s.; on account of new engine, 600l.; income tax, 281l. 10s. 4d.; leaving balance in favour of mine, 2060l. 13s. 10d. A dividend of 2s. per share (1024l.) was declared, and the balance, 1036l. 13s. 10d., carried next account. The profits on the two months' working was 874l. 5s. 1d. Captain Matthew White reported that they had resumed sinking the No. 2 winze under the 120, where the lode was 5 ft. wide, but disordered by a small slide, dipping from east, and worth now 10l. per fm. The tribute department was the same as last reported.

At Paul's Downs Mines meeting, on the 29th of March, the accounts showed—Balance against mine, 603l. 4s. 8d.; mine cost, Nov. to Feb., 737l. 5s. 4d.; merchant's bills, 498l. 2s. 3d.; discount, 111l. 10s. 4d.; sundry advances, 187l. 10s.; on account of new engine, 600l.; income tax, 281l. 10s. 4d.; leaving balance in favour of mine, 2060l. 13s. 10d. A dividend of 2s. per share (1024l.) was declared, and the balance, 1036l. 13s. 10d., carried next account. The profits on the two months' working was 874l. 5s. 1d. Captain Matthew White reported that they had resumed sinking the No. 2 winze under the 120, where the lode was 5 ft. wide, but disordered by a small slide, dipping from east, and worth now 10l. per fm. The tribute department was the same as last reported.

At Great Coworth Mine meeting, on Thursday (Mr. John Sunley in the chair), the accounts showed—Balance in favour of mine, 90l. 13s. 9d.; ore sold, 249l. 12s. 7d.; property-tax, &c., 51l. 5s. 6d.=400l. 11s. 10d.—Mine cost, Jan. and Feb., 208l. 6s. 5d.; rent due, 100l.; law expenses, &c., 68l. 7s. 6d.; leaving balance in favour of mine, 54l. 17s. 11d. The chairman produced a section of the mine, drawn by Capt. Northey and fully explained the present workings. In the 30 fm. level cross-cut, in 2 1/2 fms. further driving, they would reach a junction of the lodes, and it was only fair to assume that at this junction they would come to a large bunch of lead ore. They were justified in assuming that by the antecedents of the mine, such an occurrence taking place in an upper level some years back. Mr. Burt stated that he had received a letter this morning from Capt. Northey, who said that the 30th was not looking quite so well, but a favourable change had taken place in the 30th; the lode was very large, and of a beautiful nature, and, if it continued, they were not far from lead. The chairman observed, that with regard to the quartz, in accordance with a resolution passed at the last meeting, Mr. Low had taken away samples of 25 lbs., which three or four days hence would be assayed, and by that day month Mr. L. would be able to lay before them the assays of 60 tons of quartz, and it would then be for the shareholders to consider what course should be adopted; whether they should erect machinery, or sell the quartz in its natural crushed state. It would be premature now to discuss these questions, as they must await the result of Mr. L.'s assays. He (the chairman) had every confidence in the adventure, and did not regret the large stake he had in it, which he did

not think he could have sincerely stated at any previous meeting. Mr. Burt and several other shareholders having at some length expressed their confidence in the result, the proceedings terminated, with a vote of thanks to the chairman.

At Wheal Trefusis meeting, on the 22d March, the accounts showed—Balance against mine, 505l. 18s. 3d.; mine cost, Nov. to Feb., 737l. 5s. 4d.; merchant's bills, 1804l. 15s. 10d.=7797l. 4s. 3d.—By call of 10s. per share, made Feb. 8 (when collected), 2354l.; leaving balance against mine, 5423l. 4s. 3d. A call of 1l. per share was made. The appointment of Mr. John Pegg as under-secretary, was confirmed; and the meeting having taken into consideration a letter from certain London shareholders, it was proposed by Mr. C. F. Gwynne, and seconded by Mr. J. C. Lanyon, that "no general meeting be held at any place other than the account-house on the mine." Captain Thomas Richards reported that "the lode in the 44 west is worth 12l. per fm. In the 34 the lode is poor. The lode in the 24 is small. The lode in the 10, east of Reynolds's shaft, is worth 6l. to 7l. per fm. for tin. In the 15, east of Boundary shaft, we have extended 15 fms., in a good lode for copper ore, but the present end is poor. Our tribute is not looking so well as for some time past, but the present explorations promise better results for the future."

At the Great Cambrian Mining and Quarrying Company meeting, on Tuesday (Mr. W. E. Tuke in the chair), a resolution was passed for prosecuting the mine with vigour, and a call of 2s. 6d. per share was made. Mr. Moscop, having offered to perform the office of secretary gratuitously, was elected, and the following gentlemen selected as the committee of management:—The Hon. C. J. Skelkemp, Messrs. W. E. Tuke, J. W. Gull, John Tuke, and John Moscop. The number of shares were reduced to 20,000, the present certificates to be called in, and new ones given in exchange, and the proceedings terminated with a vote of thanks to the chairman and directors.

At Bottle Hill Mine meeting, on Monday, the accounts showed—Balance last account, 358l. 5s. 10d.; calls received, 1445l. =1803l. 5s. 10d.—Mine cost, Dec. to Feb., 741l. 11s. 11d.; merchants' bills, 709l. 10s.; H. W. Vallance's account, Christmas, 92l. 9s. 4d.; discount on bills, 1l. 0s. 6d.; secretary's salary, office rent, &c., 25l. 5s.; leaving balance in favour of mine, 170l. 7s. 1d. The estimated amount of payment over receipts before the next meeting, in June, will be 100l. 10s. 6d. Capt. James Wolferstan reported that the ground in the 123 fm. level was of a highly promising character, consisting of a light blue kila, with occasional branches of capel, spotted with ore. In the cross-cut, driving south in the 100 fm. level, they had reached the capels, or north part of the lode; and seeing such a large stream of mineral water issuing from it, and taking into consideration the ample returns which have, before now, been made from the tract of ground at the back of the adit, and that the party they were now about to enter had never been worked, they could not but expect, on reaching the main part of the lode, they should meet with good results.

At Trenow Consols meeting, on the 30th March (Mr. James Loftus in the chair), the accounts showed—Balance last account, 1838l. 10s. 5d.; mine cost, Dec. and Jan., 1068l. 10s. 5d.; merchants' bills, 638l. 2s. 3d.; dues, one-eighth, 33l. 5s. 8d.=3688l. 11s. 3d.—Calls received, 1750l.; tin sold, 360l. 3s. 9d.; copper sold, 360l. 14s. 1d.; leaving balance against mine, 1197l. 11s. 5d. A call of 10s. per share was made. Capt. John Smith and Thomas Bennett reported that they had cut a good lode of copper in the 10 fathom level, east of whim-shaft; it was looking well at Hill's shaft; from this lode they were led to expect great things. It was resolved that proceedings be commenced in the Stannaries Court against R. Waldron, for arrears of call.

At Devon Buller Great Consols Mine meeting, on 31st March (Mr. G. Down in the chair), the accounts showed—Mine cost, Nov. to Jan., 168l. 2s. 6d.; merchants' bills, 532l. 11s. 6d.; commission, &c., 5l. 16s. 2d.=538l. 10s. 2d.—Balance from last account, 133l. 12s. 9d.; calls received, 333l. 5s. 6d.; leaving balance against mine, 361l. 11s. 11d. A call of 2s. 6d. per share was made, and Messrs. The Nicholls, W. Motherell, S. Drew, F. Norrington, and C. H. Daw, were elected to committee of management. Capt. Wm. Neil reported that the principal part of the steam-engine is on the mine, and that the walls of the engine-house will be built by end of next week, so that the engineers would be able to commence fixing the engine.

At Yeoland Consols meeting, on the 28th March (Mr. E. S. Codd in the chair), the accounts showed—Balance last account, 966l. 14s. 6d.; mine cost, Sept. to Jan., 1516l. 11s. 8d.; merchants' bills, 842l. 2s. 8d.; dues, 644l. 15s. 3d.=3160l. 4s. 6d.—Tin sold, 1302l. 18s. 3d.; calls received, 808l. 2s. 3d.; leaving balance against mine, 1250l. 5s. 7d. Capt. Richard Williams reported that the strictest economy had been adopted in everything under his direction; and he believed that, if they persisted, they would be ultimately successful.

At Britannia (Llanarmon) Mine meeting, held at the Royal Oak in Mold, on the 27th March (Mr. Wm. Watson in the chair), it was proposed by Mr. Williams, seconded by Mr. Bateman, that, in consequence of the limited attendance, the consideration of Mr. Lynch's letter be deferred. On the proposition of Mr. Jones (Hawarden), the forfeiture of the shares of Capt. W. Williams and Mr. B. Phelps was postponed, to enable them to make arrangements for retaining a part. The accounts were passed, and a call of 21s. per share made. Mr. R. Williams appointed auditor for the ensuing twelve months.

Newtons, Galscope, and Wheal Mary Ann, have sold lead ore. Great Beam, Wheal Trevelyan, Porthkellis Union, Boscan, Wheal Porth, and Great Polgoth, have sold black tin.

The Grassington Mines sold 250 tons of lead this week. From Cubert United Mines, the sale of lead ore was 34 1/2 tons; it was wrongly stated as 24 1/2 tons on the 24th March.

Great Wheal Vor United Mines sold, on the 31st of March, 15 tons 1 cwt. 2 qrs. 11 lbs. of black tin, producing 900l. 7s. 6d., making, with the 24th March sale, 3095l. 9s. 3d.

From the Trewethen Mine, the assay of 24 tons of ore, sampled on Tuesday, 29th March, gave—15 1/2 in 20 for lead, and 68 1/2 oz. of fine silver to the ton.

Sortridge Consols sampled, on the 30th March, 63 tons of rich assay ore—36 tons, produce, 8 1/2; and 27 tons, produce, 8 1/2.

At Holmshurst Mines, 279 tons (computed) were sampled on Friday in the western end, in the 145 fm. level, the newly-opened flap-jack lode in the wide, containing a leader of ore, and producing 1 ton of ore per fathom, of good quality, and in the eastern end very rich stones of ore. In the southern end of the newly-discovered lead lode, the lode is producing 4 cwt. of rich silver-bearing ore, and in the western end 8 cwt. per fathom. These discoveries are valuable, and when somewhat opened, have a beneficial effect towards keeping up the returns.

At Sortridge Consols, the engine went to work on Tuesday evening at 10 for the water fast. The lode in the 20 fm. level is turning out a large quantity of rich ore, which will considerably increase the next sampling, notwithstanding the smallness of the last parcel, it proved to be 73 tons, instead of 60 tons calculated; and that sampled last week will be upwards of 60 tons. These are satisfactory monthly returns for a mine not more than 15 months old.

From the Caegwain Mines, Mr. Chas. Low's sixth series of assays gave an average of 3 ozs. 3 dwts. 9 grs. of fine gold per ton of quartz.

At the Australian Freehold Gold Mining Company meeting, on Tuesday (Mr. Ronald in the chair), a resolution was passed directing the committee of management to take the necessary steps for winding up the company, and realising and dividing, pro rata, amongst the shareholders the remaining property in hand. The number of registered shares, the holders voting in their own right for the resolution, were 15,000; against it, Mr. A. W. Clarke, 300—majority, 15,000. The proceedings, which are fully detailed in another column, terminated with a vote of thanks to the chairman and committee of management.

La Fortuna Mining Company have advices dated Linares, March 26:—"The men have not yet completed the cutting in the shaft, preparatory to driving under the third level at Canada Inessa, and it will still occupy some days, as the ground is hard. We have cleared the third level for nearly 50 fms. west of the point where Addis's shaft will communicate, and are still continuing the work, with the view of reaching the end as quickly as possible; we find the lode to contain lead ore for most of its length, but from the ground about it being hard, it was, no doubt, left by the old parties, the date of whose researches in this part is unknown to us. We shall be able by and by to take away some of the ground to advantage. In the second level, west of Addis's shaft, we are clearing through a run, which we expect will soon be completed, when we shall continue our clearing in this direction, with the immediate objects of communicating O'Shea's shaft, which is now down to this level, and of reaching the western end as quickly as possible. At O'Shea's shaft, we are cutting a flat preparatory to sinking under the second level. Taylor's shaft is being proceeded with satisfactorily. At Los Salidos, the masons have begun to build the boiler-house; the last week's bad weather has hindered their work both in this as well as in roofing the engine-house. The same cause prevents the departure of the boat from Seville. The slag smelting has also been interrupted."

The Pontgibaud Mining Company have received a report from Captain Rickard, from which the following is an extract:—"Kosler: The rise against St. Peter's shaft is now under the main lode, and is bespangled with ore throughout, and all the stuff broken in it is saving work. The 20 metre level, north of Anna's shaft, is still looking well, and yielding 1 ton of ore per fm. There is no change in the 20 metre level south. The adit level south of St. Peter's shaft is still good, and turning out 3 tons of rich ore per fm. The same level south is being driven under the lode at present, to get it away from the shaft, the lode being hard at that place, will be broken in a better advantage by and by. We are driving a short cross-cut through the lode in the shallow, or old adit, about 20 metres south of St. Peter's shaft, and find the lode there large and ore as far as seen (2 metres); this looks well for the deep adit south. The lode in the 60, north of St. Joseph's shaft, has a very kindly appearance, and producing a little saving work. The winze in the bottom of the 60, south of the lode, is still looking well, and turning out 2 tons of ore per fm. We have now working in Rosier three stoves and ten tribute pitches, which are turning out well, and will greatly assist us while the water is in the bottom level. We have now working in the laveries, 94 girls, and 47 men and boys—total 141, and are getting on better, in that department.—Michele: We have finished in the adit level around Taylor's engine-shaft, and taken up the surface water, and shall begin sinking again next week. The cross-cut men will now begin to cut through the No. 6 lode, and drive on the adit south. The men in the adit north are now cutting through the western part of the No. 6 lode, they have cut it about 4 ft., and find it ore for that width, and sinking well in end of cross-cut.—Barbott: This rise in back of the adit level, in the mountain front, is nearly held to surface, and still continues to produce some rich lead ore. This piece of ground will pay well for stopping, and we intend to begin working it when the rise is finished."

The Liberty Mining Company have advices from their resident director, dated Vaucluse Mine, Wilderness, Virginia, March 19, of which the following is an extract:—"The mail on the 17th inst. brought me your letter of the 21st Feb. As to the erection of the new stamps, of which you write so urgently, I am progressing with them as fast as can be done; the weather has stopped us considerably, and if it clears up I shall be well raised this week. When we can keep at it till nine p.m., and I sincerely hope they will be working away by the middle of April, as being dependent partly on the weather, and partly on other people, I do not feel justified in making promises. You say, however, depend on it that when the 42 head stamps are running we shall pay a good honest dividend, and keep it up. I will send you copies of such plans and sections as you have not already had, and the accounts, at the end of the month. With respect to the supply of ore, that now in the 60 and 80 ft. levels will keep the 42-head stamps running day and night for years, independent of which, at Riddell shaft, I have 340 ft., 8 ft. wide, say 50 ft. of backs, upwards of 3000 tons; at the north whim-shaft, north drift, opened 40 ft. wide, 300 ft. long, say 50 ft. of backs, 20,000 tons; 50 ft. more in width on east side not yet opened, centre of shaft, and south whim contains many thousands tons."

The Fort Bowen Gold and Silver Mining Company have advices from their superintendent (Mr. Bam), dated Fort Bowen Mine, March 8, of which the following is an extract:—"I am glad to inform you that I have received a letter from Mr. Cowan, dated the 31st inst., advising me that the Young Marquis arrived at Calcutta on the 25th Feb., that she had discharged the goods she had for that place, and would immediately take the goods and mules on board, which he (Mr. Cowan) had purchased for me, and proceed on the 5th inst. for Escribanas. I am momentarily looking out for her arrival. In respect to the return cargo, I will report to you by the next mail; meanwhile, I will spare no exertions to accomplish the instructions of the directors. At present we are occupied in preparing the road for the railway, sinking a shaft on the Morgan vein, making a water dam for the use of the washing apparatus, and building an assay-office at the mine, which I have removed from the Boca del Belen. The dwelling houses are all completed, and every one is lodged comfortably at the mine; and as great discipline is kept up here, and all spirits prohibited, neither doctor nor hospital are required here."

The Mount Carbon Mining Company have advices from their agent to March 11, stating that 15,000 bushels of coals had arrived at Cincinnati, and that several barges were on their way. Mr. Griffin had succeeded in leasing a large depot and wharf at Cincinnati on advantageous terms, and had appointed an active agent for the sale of coals. The coal was pronounced of the best quality, and was selling at 14 to 16 cents, per bushel. The agent had been offered large contracts for the delivery of coals.

The New Granada Company have received 571 ozs. of gold, the produce of their mines for January, valued at 13304, being 336 ozs. from Frontino, costing \$400, and 205 ozs. from Bolivia, costing about 2400; the latter the result of no more than 11 stamps working. The quality of the mineral at both mines had considerably improved, and at Frontino, by the last advices (11th February), the yield by the stamps was increasing. The new watercourse, two miles long, was completed at Frontino, insuring at that mine an uninterrupted full supply of water for the stamps all the year round. In every respect the advices are most satisfactory.

The Burra Burra Mine (by advices from Adelaide up to February 3), we learn, in the space of 17 days after the great engine had been set to work, had drained to its lowest levels, and, on examination, very little damage had been done, although the water had been in for two years. Labour was abundant, and a full complement of men to work the mine was ready to commence operations. A dividend of 100 per cent. will be declared in March; and when we state that, notwithstanding the best levels of the mine had been under water, and that regular dividends of 100 per cent. per quarter have been declared, what the dividends are likely to be when in full operation we leave our readers to judge.

The Adelaide Land and Gold Company's advices reach to February 2. The attention of the committee of management at Adelaide had been directed, by the offer of Government of 10,000 for the discovery of a gold field, to an investigation of their lands for gold; and we annex their inspector's report, and shall wait for further information, with the hope that this company may prove itself entitled to the promised reward. The following report has been forwarded to the manager:—"Having been engaged the last few months in inspecting the company's purchased land, to report as to its mineral capabilities, I have the honour to inform you that I find nearly the whole of the company's sections in Onkaparinga district are intersected with a good-looking lode for mineral; from one of them I forward a stone which yielded a good trace of gold when tried by the assay of tin. A part of the same stone (about 1/2 oz.) I forwarded to the manager, and his test by amalgamation made the yield at the rate of 12 ozs. 15 dwts. to the ton. A second sample of stone from near the same place, from an imperfect test, yielded at the rate of 4 ozs. 14 dwts. 2 grs. to the ton; and from a sample of the same stone, Capt. Davey makes the result at the rate of 9 ozs. 6 dwts. 4 grs. to the ton. These results are from surface stones; by opening the lode, I got good traces of gold by amalgamation, at both 4 and 8 feet deep. The next sample tried from 30 feet below the surface; from a fair sample taken from the whole of the lode, Capt. Davey makes the result 7 ozs. to the ton. This lode is upon section 4071, and is near the boundary of 4072, running about north 35° east, and dips to the eastward. The country on each side of the lode is a white pipelay, and easy to work. The lode is from 9 to 12 inches through. There are numerous other lodes, both north and south of this one, and the whole country is known to contain gold, both on and a few feet below the surface.—H. Moxon, Inspector: Adelaide, Jan. 31."

The Great Nugget Vein Gold (Australian) Mining Company held their half-yearly meeting, on January 15, when a dividend of 2½ per cent. for the half-year was declared, but dissatisfaction was expressed at the manner in which the works were carried on. It was also resolved "that the English income-tax cannot be allowed to the shareholders of the United Kingdom, but that the interest accruing on the amount of the unpaid dividends, which have been invested by the London agents, should be paid them. There was also some lengthy discussion about the manner in which the claims of the company were at present worked by the Colonial Gold Company. It appears that where the claims yield only a small proportion of gold to the ton, the gold company are allowed by their contract to take four-fifths of the receipts, allowing the Great Nugget Vein Company the remaining fifth. Where the yield is more prolific a larger proportion is given to the company, in order to equalise profits. But it was contended that by this arrangement the interests of the Colonial Gold Company would induce them to work the poor soils only, because from them they would get the largest proportion of profit. Ultimately a resolution was adopted that the sliding scale should be changed to a fixed one.

The English and Australian Copper Company have advices from Adelaide to February 3. The greater part of the correspondence has been sent via Southampton, and has not yet come to hand, but is expected about the 9th inst., when full particulars will be given. Mr. Hamilton's report it is fully expected will be received by the same opportunity.

The Australian Mining Company are in receipt of advices from their agent at Tunkillo, dated Adelaide, January 29. He writes, "We have sunk Mas-terman's shaft to the 60 fm. level, and have driven 13 feet 10 inches in the footwall, without cutting the lode. We are now driving in the hanging wall, where we must cut it shortly, unless it turns out, after all, to have to have to the westward. No have is apparent in the 50 fathom level, but I am inclined to think that the lode (Baker's) has changed its underlie between Polkinghorne's winze and the shaft; otherwise we must have cut it in the footwall cross-cut. We have cut into the lode in the bottom of Polkinghorne's winze, where, as I have already informed you, the lode, as far as proved, was holding down in its regular underlay; on the 25th inst. we had proved it for 1 ft. 6 inches in thickness, without any appearance of the footwall; it is ore all through, and has some fine and compact branches in it of black-coated yellow ore; it is a strong regular lode, and looks like making ore. This is the deepest place in which Baker's lode has hitherto been proved—viz., 3 fathoms below the 50 fathom level. I hope next mail to inform you that it has been cut from the shaft, where, if it is rich and promising, we shall drive on it as far as possible. In the new discovery adit we are also cross-cutting for the lode, and must be near it. I had hoped to have had to inform you that I had arranged for the shipment of our ore, but all the vessels at present are loading with dead weight. Our port agent, however, informs me that within a month's time he will be able to ship it, without doubt."

The committee of shareholders of the Agua Fria Gold Mining Company having conferred with the directors, shareholders are requested, by the 17th inst., to make application for debentures forming a first charge upon the company's property, and bearing 15 per cent. per annum interest. The total amount is not to exceed 15,000, and the debentures are to be issued in sums of not less than 50, each.

In the Gold Mining Share Market, a slight improvement may be noted, business being done on Thursday in Agua Fria at ¼; Australian, ¼; and New Granada, ¼. The closing prices of Anglo-African were ¼ to ½; Carsons Creek, ¼ to ½; Colonial Gold, ¼ to ½; Great Nugget Vein, registered, ¼ to ½; Newvan Monde, ¼ to ½; Port Phillip, ¼ to ½; Waller, ¼ to ½; West Mariposa, ¼ to ½.

In the Miscellaneous Share Market, throughout the week a very fair amount of business has been done, and on Thursday more activity was exhibited than for some time past, shares changing hands that day in Australian Agricultural, at 2½; 28½; Peel River, 2½; Netherlands Land, 1½; South Australian Land, 3½ to 4; Van Diemen's Land, 1½; Australian Royal Mail, 3½ to 4; Berlin Water-Works, 4½ to 5; Canada, 120; Canada Government 6 per cent., 100 to 103½; Crystal Palace, 3½ to 3¾; ditto, Preference, 3½; Electric Telegraph, 15; Mexican and South American, 6½; ditto, New, 2½; Peninsular and Oriental Steam, 87½; and Royal Mail Steam, 70, 69, to 70½. The closing price of British American Land was 55 to 60, ex div.; North British Australasian, ¼ to 1; Scottish Australian Investment, 1¼ to 1½; ditto, New, ¼ to ½; pre-registered submarine Telegraph scrip, ¼ to 1; ditto, Registered, ¼ to ½. In Joint-Stock Banks, shares fully maintain the recent improvement; and on Thursday, business was transacted in the following nine companies:—Commercial of London, 30 to 30½; English, Scottish, and Australian Chartered, 15½; London Chartered Bank of Australia, 20½ to 20¾; London Joint-Stock Bank, 27½; London and Westminster, 42½ to 43½; Oriental Bank Corporation, 39½; Provincial of Ireland, 50; Union of Australia, 66½ to 67½; Union of London, 26½. The closing prices of other securities of this description were—Australia, 80 to 82, ex div.; Chartered Bank of Asia, 1 to 1½; New South Wales, 33 to 35; South Australia, 37 to 39; United of Australia, New, 7½ to 8½. Yesterday being Good Friday, the markets were, of course, closed.

In Iron and Coal Companies, during the week, there has been but very little business doing. The closing prices are—Blaenau Iron, 5 to 7; British Iron, 4½ to 5½; Rhymney Iron, 19 to 21; ditto New, 5 to 6; Duxton Iron Ore, ¼ to ½.

From America, we learn that a most important legal decision has just been pronounced by the whole Bench of the Supreme Court of the United States, establishing definitively and unalterably the title of Col. Fremont, the celebrated explorer, to the richest portion of the gold districts of California, known as the "Mariposa Tract." The decision makes him, in the estimation of geologists, bankers, and merchants, the richest man in America. An enormous amount of gold has, from the beginning, been taken from his lands every year; but there are many thousands of acres of mountains and valleys where the washings are enriched by every shower, and where the quartz rocks, in cubic miles, can work out fabulous fortunes by the crushing power of machinery. Col. Fremont, at an early age (and he is now only a little above forty) entered the corps of engineers of the United States, and was assistant to Nicollet, the illustrious Frenchman, whom he matured sciences tributary to the public service, in exploring the North American Continent. He achieved an enduring fame by his three successive tours of exploration across the Continent, and received the prize medal for geographical discovery from Berlin. The friends of science and genius will be glad to hear that this title inalienable wealth has been firmly established, after he had passed through so many sufferings in the cause of science, and so much poverty, all along his road of life.

From California, we learn that a general panic in banking transactions has taken place. This has arisen, in the first instance, from the stoppage of the firm of Messrs. Page, Bacon, and Co., at St. Louis; these gentlemen had, likewise, a house in San Francisco. On the suspension of their payments, a run took place on the several banks, four of which—viz., Messrs. Adams and Co., Messrs. Wells, Fargo, and Co., the Miners' Exchange Bank, and Messrs. Robinson and Co., have been necessitated to close their doors for the present. Messrs. Adams and Co., it was anticipated, would resume payments. The liabilities of Messrs. Page, Bacon, and Co., only amounted to \$1,302,950; while the assets would amount to \$2,171,818; the real estate of the senior partner alone amounting to \$1,845,000. A public meeting, which was numerously attended by several influential merchants, was convened, when it was resolved to support them with a guarantee of \$1,050,000, and business was again likely to commence. Messrs. Robinson and Co.'s assets are considerable, but not immediately available. The estate of Messrs. Wells, Fargo, and Co. showed, after every liability had been paid, a balance of \$591,068 in their favour. There was no great loss on either side. Mr. W. Stewart, the Inspector general, goes home in the *Madras*. The bank gave him 5000, as a testimonial; gifts to the wealthy—the old plan!

From Sydney, we learn that the return of the revenue for the concluding quarter of 1854 had a very decided tendency to confirm public confidence in the stability of commercial and industrial interests. The revenue exceeds that of the corresponding quarter of the preceding year by 175,824. The land sales exceed those of the same quarter of the former year by 10,871. In the gold revenue there is a decrease of not less than 25,398, the actual receipts for licences, &c., being 24,502. The expenses of the system, and the collections being balanced, no profit seems to arise from mining commissions, camps, troops, and man-hunters; the gold fields would be thrown open to all comers, with probably some new diggings might be found, and the revenue would benefit by the consumption of goods subject to the tariff. There is a likelihood Victoria will very speedily abolish the hateful and vexatious license fee. The Australian Steam Navigation Company had declared a dividend of 3½ per cent. for the half-year, ending December 31, 1854. The Australian General Assurance Company had declared a dividend of 7½ per cent. for the past half-year. The Australian Joint-Stock Bank had also held their usual meeting, and declared a dividend of 10 per cent. per annum. The profit of the six months ending 31st December was 12,841. Mr. T. W. Stewart, the Inspector general, goes home in the *Madras*. The bank gave him 5000, as a testimonial; gifts to the wealthy—the old plan!

Advices from Liverpool (4th April) announce the arrival there of 1000 boxes (about 225 tons) of copper ore from the Tennessee Mines (some particulars of which appear in another column), consigned to T. Robinson, Esq. Regular shipments are now being made to Europe from these mines, amounting to 600 tons per month. The port of shipment is Savannah. No ore is shipped to Europe, or intended to be shipped, unless they contain above 20 per cent. of copper. The letter adds:—"The ore will be crushed and sampled in regular course. The sales will take place 14 days from the date of sampling. The ore is now being removed to the yard, Harrington Dock, where it will be crushed and sampled."

The Paris Bourse, there has been an extraordinary fall in the Stolberg Zinc Mining shares. I have reported, on that company, whose capital was but five millions of francs, has expended eight millions in works, and that a loan of three millions must be had recourse to for the deficiency. The consequence was, that the shares which but a few days ago sold for 450 frs. are now at 200 frs.

At the Mart, fifteen 500 shares of the Auction Mart, paying a dividend of 10 s. per share, with an occasional bonus of 2 s. 6d., sold for 331 and 341, per share.

The Banwen Iron Company, now in course of winding-up under the Joint-Stock Act, has been placed by Messrs. Blunt under the official management of Mr. Alfred Ainger, of Carlton-hill, Edgeware-road, in place of Mr. Henry Anderson, who has resigned.

The number of pumping-engines reported in *Brown's Cornish Engine Reporter* for the month of Feb. is 24. The average duty (being millions of pounds lifted 1 foot high by the consumption of 1 lb. of coal) of 15 engines is 70.1 million lbs. The number of rotary whim-engines reported is 17. The average duty of 10 engines is 17.1 million lbs. The number of stamping engines reported is 5. The average duty of three engines is 51.5 millions.

[The reports of the United Mexican, Ryal Santiago, San Fernando, Grand Duchy of Baden, Wildberg, Colonial Gold, and Fort Phillip and Colonial Gold Companies, will be found on the 22nd page.]

The Board of Trade returns, just issued, give the following particulars of the metal imports during the month ended on the 5th March last, and the corresponding period of 1854 and 1853:—

| | 1853. | 1854. | 1855. |
|--|-----------|-------|-------|
| Copper ore and regulus..... | Tons 1640 | 4224 | 2053 |
| Copper unwrought and part wrought..... | Cwt. 8667 | 1998 | 6867 |
| Iron in bars, unwrought..... | Tons 1579 | 554 | 678 |
| Steel, unwrought..... | Tons 229 | 61 | 70 |
| Lead, pig and sheet..... | Tons 898 | 383 | 344 |
| Spelter..... | Tons 782 | 603 | 392 |
| Tin..... | Cwt. 606 | 2201 | 640 |

The declared value of the metals exported during the same periods were as follows:—

| | 1853. | 1854. | 1855. |
|-----------------|-----------|-------------|-----------|
| Iron..... | \$541,044 | \$575,678 | \$593,758 |
| Steel..... | \$8,302 | \$9,961 | \$3,505 |
| Copper..... | \$102,727 | \$137,951 | \$1,745 |
| Brass..... | \$5,987 | \$8,478 | \$2,257 |
| Lead..... | \$24,849 | \$27,365 | \$19,608 |
| Tin..... | \$2,155 | \$14,580 | \$7,670 |
| Tin Plates..... | \$130,183 | \$2,312 | \$5,753 |
| Total..... | \$904,247 | \$1,106,325 | \$574,306 |

LEAD ORES.

| Mines. | Tons. | Price per ton. | Purchasers. |
|---------------------|-------|----------------|------------------------|
| Goldscope..... | 42 | \$11 17 6 | Shield and Dinning. |
| Newtonards..... | 13 | 16 5 0 | Walker, Parker, & Co. |
| Sole on 24 April. | | | |
| Wheal Mary Ann..... | 37 | \$21 6 | Sims, Williams, & Co. |
| ditto..... | 37 | 22 17 6 | Locke, Blackett, & Co. |

BLACK TIN.

| Mines. | Tons c. q. lb. | Price per ton. | Purchasers. |
|-----------------|----------------|----------------|------------------------|
| Great Beam..... | 0 7 0 20 | \$7 0 0 | \$ 36 4 0—New Blowing. |
| ditto..... | 2 17 1 0 | 6 15 0 | 183 6 11—ditto |
| ditto..... | 0 0 3 24 | 5 0 0 | 2 15 11—ditto |
| ditto..... | 0 7 2 12 | 5 10 0 | 22 4 11—Dabuz. |
| ditto..... | 0 8 2 22 | 7 0 0 | 32 13 1—ditto |
| ditto..... | 2 0 2 16 | 6 15 0 | 160 14 8—ditto |
| ditto..... | 0 13 3 1 | 7 0 0 | 50 4 5—ditto |
| ditto..... | 1 19 2 15 | 6 0 0 | 126 16 7—ditto |
| ditto..... | 0 5 1 7 | 5 10 0 | 15 10 8—ditto |
| ditto..... | 0 4 0 8 | 5 0 0 | 10 10 10—ditto |
| ditto..... | 0 10 3 9 | 7 0 0 | 39 10 7—New Blowing. |
| ditto..... | 2 4 3 8 | 6 0 0 | 143 8 6—ditto |

Sold on 29th March.

Sold on 30th March.

Sold on 31st March.

Sold on 1st April.

Sold on 2nd April.

Sold on 3rd April.

Sold on 4th April.

Sold on 5th April.

Sold on 6th April.

Sold on 7th April.

Sold on 8th April.

Sold on 9th April.

Sold on 10th April.

Sold on 11th April.

Sold on 12th April.

Sold on 13th April.

Sold on 14th April.

Sold on 15th April.

Sold on 16th April.

Sold on 17th April.

Sold on 18th April.

Sold on 19th April.

Sold on 20th April.

Sold on 21st April.

Sold on 22nd April.

Sold on 23rd April.

Sold on 24th April.

COPPER ORES.

Sampled March 14, and sold at Swansea April 3, 1855.

| Mines. | Tons. | Produce. | Price. | Mines. | Tons. | Produce. | Price. |
|----------------|-------|----------|----------|-------------------|-------|----------|----------|
| Cuba..... | 99 | 13½ | \$14 4 6 | Cuba..... | 12 | 70½ | \$79 8 6 |
| Berehaven..... | 110 | 10½ | 11 18 0 | Berehaven..... | 110 | 10½ | 11 18 0 |
| ditto..... | 18 | 18 0 | 18 0 0 | ditto..... | 87 | 10½ | 11 1 0 |
| ditto..... | 24½ | 27 0 0 | 27 0 0 | ditto..... | 83 | 10½ | 11 1 0 |
| ditto..... | 44 | 24½ | 27 2 6 | Knockmahon..... | 115 | 13½ | 14 6 0 |
| ditto..... | 31 | 24½ | 26 10 6 | ditto..... | 70 | 8½ | 9 15 0 |
| ditto..... | 16 | 18½ | 20 12 6 | ditto..... | 82 | 8½ | 9 8 0 |
| ditto..... | 15 | 65½ | 76 6 0 | Peninsular..... | 89 | 8½ | 7 3 6 |
| ditto..... | 101 | 12½ | 13 12 6 | ditto..... | 34 | 10½ | 11 1 6 |
| ditto..... | 190 | 12½ | 14 2 0 | ditto..... | 4 | 12½ | 13 18 0 |
| ditto..... | 27 | 13 0 | 13 0 0 | ditto..... | 3 | 2½ | 10 5 0 |
| ditto..... | 71 | 13½ | 13 8 6 | ditto..... | 2 | 2½ | 22 7 0 |
| ditto..... | 49 | 20 | 21 10 6 | ditto..... | 1 | 13½ | 14 3 0 |
| ditto..... | 47 | 20 | 22 6 0 | Ballymurtagh..... | 63 | 3½ | 3 7 0 |
| ditto..... | 36 | 20½ | 23 0 0 | ditto..... | 40 | 3 | 3 15 6 |
| ditto..... | 35 | 15½ | 17 3 0 | ditto..... | 71 | 5½ | 5 15 0 |
| ditto..... | 8 | 65 | 70 6 0 | ditto..... | 23 | 2½ | 2 9 0 |
| ditto..... | 122 | 12½ | 14 2 6 | ditto..... | 36 | 2½ | 3 3 0 |
| ditto..... | 106 | 13½ | 14 14 0 | French Slag..... | 56 | 8½ | 8 18 6 |
| ditto..... | 104 | 13½ | 14 7 0 | ditto..... | 50 | 8½ | 8 18 6 |
| ditto..... | 103 | 13½ | 14 15 0 | African..... | 63 | 27½ | 30 10 0 |
| ditto..... | 105 | 11 | 11 7 6 | ditto..... | 81 | 25½ | 34 9 0 |
| ditto..... | 100 | 11 | 11 6 6 | Namagua..... | 63 | 29½ | 34 4 6 |
| ditto..... | 96 | 11 | 11 7 0 | ditto..... | 13 | 34 | 35 15 6 |
| ditto..... | 95 | 11½ | 11 5 0 | Devon Slag..... | 63 | 4½ | 3 15 0 |
| ditto..... | 60 | 21½ | 23 8 0 | Glanmore, H..... | 36 | 7½ | 8 8 0 |
| ditto..... | 8 | 23½ | 25 12 6 | ditto..... | 12 | 8½ | 9 3 0 |
| ditto..... | 74 | 14½ | 15 9 0 | Ballygahan..... | 23 | 4½ | 4 8 0 |
| ditto..... | 68 | 14½ | 15 2 6 | Lackamore..... | 7 | 2½ | 2 12 0 |
| ditto..... | 63 | 15½ | 15 11 6 | Welsh Ore..... | 2 | 7½ | 7 14 0 |
| ditto..... | 33 | 22½ | 24 16 0 | Neath Slag..... | 10 | 3 | 2 0 0 |

TOTAL PRODUCE.

| | | | | | |
|-------------------|------|--------------|------------------|----|------------|
| Cuba..... | 1418 | \$21,214 2 6 | Namagua..... | 75 | \$3201 9 6 |
| Berehaven..... | 735 | 11,494 3 6 | Devon Slag..... | 32 | 193 0 0 |
| Cuba..... | 280 | 3293 3 6 | Glanmore, H..... | 48 | 364 4 0 |
| Knockmahon..... | 247 | 2909 16 0 | Glanmore, G..... | 35 | 110 0 0 |
| Peninsular..... | 133 | 1166 7 6 | Ballygahan..... | 23 | 48 8 0 |
| Ballymurtagh..... | 235 | 982 7 0 | Lackamore..... | 7 | |

Notices to Correspondents.

* Much inconvenience having arisen in consequence of several of the Numbers during the past year being out of print, we recommend that the Journal should be regularly filed on receipt: it then forms an accumulating useful work of reference.

VENTILATION OF COAL MINES.—Sir: The short notices in your two last Journals convey a very imperfect and somewhat erroneous impression of a model at the Pantheon, London, intended to illustrate Lee's patent mode of ventilating mines. Experiments on an extended scale are, I believe, now in progress, and their result will doubtless convince your correspondent, "N. B. Y." that no piracy has been perpetrated on his invention. Should Mr. Lee's experiments prove successful, it will be his interest, as well as his duty, to put you in full possession of all particulars, to enable you to lay before the mining world facts bearing on a question of such vital interest and importance.—WILLIAM JONES: *Wrexham, April 3.*

Sir.—Referring to your leading article of last week, I observe that you mention my name as "the manager of the Duwals Ironworks," permit me to inform you that my post at the time in question was that of resident engineer; but I am no longer connected in any way with those works.—R. DAVISON: *Mark-lane, April 4.*

SOUTH COCK MINE.—Sir: Permit me, through your Journal, to ask Mr. St. Pierre Foley why the reports are not published in the *Mining Journal*, as before. At the last meeting, the chairman said that at the meeting in March he should have such a favourable report to present to the shareholders as would, doubtless, draw a larger attendance than was then assembled. No meeting, however, was held in March, and an explanation is, therefore, required. According to Capt. Treweeke, the mine is in an improving state, and if the information received from him is used for the purpose of purchasing shares at the present price of about 3s. 6d., which is not a per centage on their value (if we are to judge by Capt. Treweeke's last report), it is most creditable to all connected with the management. I feel sure that Mr. St. Pierre Foley would not join in such a system; and I hope that some of your correspondents may furnish me with information as to the real prospects of the mine. Perhaps this new neglected mine may yet rival the Wicklow Copper and the Mining Company of Ireland.—A. SHANNON: *April 4.*

"A Subscriber" (Aberystwyth).—The practice of employing masons and carpenters as mine agents is deeply to be reprehended: there are numerous competent men who would be willing to undertake such situations. Great ignorance, no doubt, prevails, and the method of management of mines in Cardiganshire, if correct, shows that the system is bad; it would be as well that some large and influential shareholder should be communicated with. The exposure in one mine would lead to a reform in the others. The communication, though we have no wish to doubt its accuracy, contains matter that is libellous, and thus cannot appear in our columns.

GREAT HEWAS CONSOLS.—Sir: I have reason to fear that the committee are not working so harmoniously as they might. It would, indeed, be a source of regret that so excellent an undertaking should be driven into difficulties by inefficient management. I am told the calls are being well paid, and I do hope that close application and honest intentions will not be wanting in those applied to the management. If difficulties exist, call a special meeting, and get them removed, but do not sacrifice the concern by an apathetic—"I would act differently if I could."—ONE INTERESTED: *Cornhill, April 5.*

"Miner" (Camborne).—Nitric is employed in medicine, the arts, and in metallurgy, for the purpose of assisting the process of oxidizing and melting; but its principal, if not its chief use, is in the manufacture of gunpowder, for which it imported from Egypt is most esteemed, as it contains the least calcareous matter. Gunpowder in general consists of seventy-six parts of nitre, nine of sulphur, and fifteen of light charcoal.

WEST CARADON.—Sir: It is not correct that Captain Dunstan promised at each bi-monthly meeting dividends of 10% per share; but at the last meeting such was the good feeling displayed towards Capt. Dunstan, that not only was a vote of thanks unanimously given to him, but every shareholder present subscribed towards a small testimonial in appreciation of the talent displayed by him in the management of the mine.—ONE WHO LIKES FAIR PLAY.

KINGSTON MINE COMPANY.—"One in the Dark."—This company appears to be in rather a singular position. The Deed of Settlement requires that a certain number of shareholders shall be present to constitute a meeting for the dispatch of business, and it so happens that the whole of the shares are held by so few, that if they all attended they are insufficient for that purpose. We will endeavour to obtain some particulars of the present condition of the company next week.

NATIVE LEAD—MINING IN GALWAY.—Sir: I see in your last Journal a notice of a small piece of native lead having been found in the Grassington Lead Mines, in the West Riding of Yorkshire. I beg to state that such is not of rare occurrence in this county. I found a piece at a depth of 20 fms., in the Glengola Lead Mine, which weighed $\frac{1}{2}$ lb.; and another piece in the Cahriglassane Silver-Lead Mine, at a depth of 11 fms., the weight of which was $\frac{1}{2}$ lb.; also, in two or three other mines, similar pieces of various weights. Query, why is the finding of native lead a sure sign of a body of ore being near?—A. K. K.: *April 4.*

"Smelter" (Swansea).—A German has lately patented an invention, professing to obtain out of muddle, containing from $\frac{1}{2}$ to 1 per cent. of copper, a ton of copper, which will not cost more than 500. In its production, and this with coal and iron, at a higher rate than in England. We shall be enabled shortly to afford further particulars.

DRUDDON MINE.—Sir: I regret to have occasion to again notice the misstatements, so frequently inserted in the *Mining Journal*, relative to this mine. Your correspondent, in the last Journal, under the signature of "Charles Thomas," reiterates some of those misstatements, although, as the then captain of the mine, well knowing that no drafts have ever been sent to the mine for "payment in Skibbereen." Those he refers to were drafts upon bankers in London. If the bankers in Skibbereen did not choose to give the cash for the one presented by "Tonkin," contrary to their usual practice, until first paid by the bank in London, no blame attachable to any one respecting it, but to him who now so designedly misrepresents the facts. In regard to the one he alludes to, for 750, sent to the mine in November last, I can only repeat that I deposited the bank-note for that cheque before I obtained it.—J. C., *Parson: Druddon Mine Office, Throgmorton-street, April 5.*

"A. K." (Bideford).—The letter of last week was omitted, with others, in consequence of its late receipt. The one received yesterday should also have been attended to, had it reached us at an earlier period.

TAMAR MARINE.—An enquirer asks, if the flyer which Captain Hodge reported was thrown off No. 4 lode has yet come back again, and suggests that probably this may have some connection with the mysterious footprints which have lately been seen in various parts of Devonshire. We have no doubt the secretary would afford all the necessary information of the present condition of the mine, as well as its future prospects.

"A Subscriber" (London).—According to the report submitted to the meeting, it appears that in several of the ends the lode was poor, but in others it mentions that it was worth from 7s. to 10s. per ton. At boundary shaft, they have extended 15 fms. on a good lode for copper ore. This tribute is not looking so well as for some time past, but the present explorations justify better results for the future. From this, it will be seen that ore is being raised, though, perhaps, none have been sold. We have always urged on shareholders the necessity of either attending meetings themselves, or insisting on being represented when absent. It is to the disregard of the Coalbrook System in its integrity, and the apathy shown, that so much disrepute is undeservedly thrown on mining enterprise.

GREAT DUCKY MINE.—Sir: Can any of your readers tell me what the state of this mine is? Whether there is any prospect of its being able to pay its working expenses, or to declare a dividend within a reasonable time?—A.: *April 3.*

"C. L." (Drury-lane).—The company has long ceased to exist. The first chairman is now barrack-master at the Cape of Good Hope; one of the directors has been a bankrupt, and the shares are entirely valueless. The best course, probably, to be pursued would be to obtain some information from the promoters as to the shares were purchased. Legal proceedings would be, in all probability, futile, as it is questionable whether anything could be recovered from the promoters.

WREAL CROBOD, AND ITS MANAGEMENT.—Sir: I think all the adventures in this mine must feel indebted to Mr. Cyrus Legg for his spirited conduct in exposing the late arbitrary and unwarrantable proceedings of our secretary. In connection with friends, I am somewhat largely interested in several mining undertakings, some of them conducted in Mr. Murchison's office, and in the management of which I shall hereafter (thanks to Mr. Legg) take a greater interest; but what I more particularly wish now is, to enquire why an explanation has not been rendered to the question of my friend "D. M." the Journal of the 24th March, the reason of Mr. Hallett's signing the report? As a member of the committee, and one in whose judgment and ability many have confidence, I think that gentleman is bound to render some explanation. Perhaps Mr. Legg may not think the matter unworthy his looking into.—HENRY JUSTUS WOOLLEY: *Tufnell-park, Holloway, April 5.*

"G. G." (Lincoln).—The subscription is progressing favourably, and the directors have every anticipation that, previous to the meeting, the requisite sum to meet every arrangement will have been paid in. They appear of opinion that the amount so raised will be ample to test the value of the property, and meet all future contingencies.

THE BRITISH AUSTRALIAN GOLD MINING COMPANY.—Sir: It was rather unfortunate that your correspondent, "A Shareholder," was unable to attend the last meeting of this company, and thus have been prevented from falling into the errors he sent to you for publication. If your correspondent had carefully read the report, he would have found that, instead of the board being self-elected, they were unanimously chosen by a large body of shareholders, and instead of voting to themselves 16000. a year for "doing nothing," the chairman, in answer to a question, stated that the directors received no remuneration. The report of the committee, which you inserted in *extenso*, gave a very straightforward account of the proceedings in Australia, and the fact of the shares now readily fetching 6s. each in the market must prove an increased feeling of confidence in the undertaking.—ONE WHO ATTENDED THE MEETING: *City, April 3.*

SANITARY REFORM.—Sir: The Health of Towns Act, intended to remedy all the sanitary evils existing in our towns and villages, is very slow in effecting the good designed, owing to its voluntary clauses, and to the dilatoriness of execution, shown both by the general and local officials. Years have elapsed since the town of Redruth was placed under the operation of the Act, but up to this time there is neither sewage or water-works, except the experimental water-works at the eastern end of the town, whereby an expense of nearly 5000. has been uselessly incurred. I have been informed, for some time, that the local board declined to work, because the map was not ready; and now that the map (approved) has been delivered by Messrs. Fynnon and Son, of Truro, no movement whatever is visible. The occupiers complain, I find, that they have been called upon to subscribe so much, and so long, for nothing. The town is wretchedly filthy, and the want of water the dry season is awfully felt. Fortunately for the inhabitants, a fire is a rare event at Redruth, otherwise, the place might have been consumed ere this. And our town of Camborne is equally destitute both of sewage and water. Here is no provision against fire any more than at Redruth; the town is also, in some places, extremely filthy, and unsewered. About two years ago a sufficient number of rate-payers subscribed the requisite memorial to the general board, and a commissioner was sent to examine and report, but the report has not been sent down yet! This shows the slowness of all public bodies in their attention to local wants. A report, which might have been prepared and printed in a week, has been withheld two years! I hope that Messrs. Rodd, Darke, and Cornish, who are clerks to the local board, or committee, will spur on that board to duty, that we may have in our populous village all the benefit of a useful Act of Parliament.—V.: *Camborne, April 4.*

We have particularly to request that subscribers and others, in paying accounts, will send cheques or post-office orders, as postage-stamps cannot be received.

COMMERCIAL NEWSPAPER PRESS.

The following Parliamentary Return shows the number of Stamps issued to the respective Newspapers for the year 1854:—

| | |
|---------------------------|---------|
| MINING JOURNAL | 189,600 |
| HERAPATH'S JOURNAL | 97,500 |
| RAILWAY TIMES | 72,000 |
| RAILWAY RECORD | 17,375 |
| RAILWAY GAZETTE | 5,000 |
| LONDON COMMERCIAL RECORD | 59,000 |
| JOURNAL OF COMMERCE | 33,000 |
| LONDON MERCANTILE JOURNAL | 16,000 |

THE MINING JOURNAL
Railway and Commercial Gazette.

LONDON, APRIL 7, 1855.

The sales of copper ore in Cornwall, during the quarter ending 31st of March, the particulars of which we published in our last Journal, show the following results:—

| Date. | Av. stand. | Prod. | Price. | Tons ore. | Fine cop. | Amount. |
|--------|------------|-------|---------|-----------|-----------|-------------|
| Jan. 4 | 137 11 | 6% | 65 14 6 | 2467 | 169 15 | £16,564 7 0 |
| " 11 | 139 6 | 6% | 6 5 6 | 4278 | 276 13 | 26,781 10 6 |
| " 18 | 137 2 | 6% | 5 16 0 | 3384 | 223 5 | 20,749 11 0 |
| " 25 | 138 17 | 6% | 6 5 0 | 4582 | 295 15 | 28,466 1 6 |
| Feb. 1 | 142 3 | 6% | 5 18 0 | 3769 | 228 10 | 22,116 0 6 |
| " 8 | 139 4 | 6% | 6 15 0 | 4469 | 304 11 | 30,105 17 6 |
| " 22 | 141 17 | 6% | 5 14 0 | 4808 | 287 4 | 27,520 11 6 |
| Mar. 1 | 145 0 | 5% | 5 11 6 | 3173 | 182 1 | 17,676 10 6 |
| " 8 | 139 6 | 7% | 7 7 6 | 2443 | 177 4 | 17,962 10 0 |
| " 15 | 144 16 | 6% | 6 6 6 | 4062 | 291 13 | 29,412 18 6 |
| " 22 | 142 17 | 6% | 6 4 0 | 3662 | 230 1 | 22,701 12 0 |
| " 29 | 141 13 | 6% | 6 16 6 | 3933 | 266 19 | 26,947 12 6 |

Total for the quarter 45,850 2033 11 £287,095 3 0

For the quarter ending December, 1854 49,146 3150 17 314,438 15 0

Do Ditto September, 1854 45,728 3002 6 292,185 19 6

Do Ditto June, 1854 46,811 2955 3 291,860 18 6

Produce for the year 187,535 12,041 17 £1,185,380 16 0

Showing a quarterly average 46,884 3,010 0 296,305 4 0

Corresponding quarter, March, 1854 45,418 2,855 5 294,353 16 0

The quarter just terminated, therefore, proves to be the lowest for the year, both in metal and money; and the result is the same as regards the sales at Swansea. The price of the metal remains in *status quo*; in fact, we never remember it to have been so stationary, nor do we see anything "looming in the distance" likely to cause a retrograde movement; on the contrary, there may be an advance, for some of the great mines are falling off in their produce. Still there are important discoveries in others, that, if they continue, may tend to keep the smelters employed to the usual extent—among these we are glad to notice United Mines, West Damsel, and the Old Consolidated. We need not further particularise, our readers should do this for themselves, by comparing our quarterly returns one with another; and if they compare the produce from either, or all the mines for the last with the preceding quarters, they may form their own opinion.

Labour and materials are somewhat cheaper than of late. Many of the mushroom mines have, fortunately, been abandoned; the list of bankrupts, insolvents, and *non est* speculators, have much increased in the last quarter, as was to be expected; and when the legitimate mining hemisphere has been duly purged of such unwholesome encumbrances (as it is likely soon to be), a better state of affairs must inevitably take place.

Mr. HERBERT MACKWORTH'S elaborate paper, read at the Society of Arts on Wednesday evening, in "The Diseases of Miners," is entitled, as well from the importance of the subject as from the official position, scientific character, and practical experience of its author, to very marked attention. In taking up this branch of the pathological investigation, set in motion by the council of that institution, a sketch of the condition of those whose toil is in the hidden places of the earth, was, of course, a necessary preliminary to the suggestion of improvements for ameliorating the physical condition of the miner. Those who had associated much with miners, or employed considerable numbers of the various classes under which they fall—coal, iron, copper, tin, and lead miners—could not fail to be struck with their appearance and general physical characteristics, as different from those of other classes of workmen inhabiting the same localities. It is, at the same time, remarkable, and much to be regretted, that this large population, numbering by the last census 296,461, following a peculiar and interesting occupation, had not attracted, by any means to the same degree, the attention of medical writers in Great Britain as on the Continent. Their social importance may be inferred from the following classification of their numbers, and the produce of their labour in 1851, since which period both have been progressively advancing:—

| | 21,366 | 52,000,000 tons of ore |
|---------------|--------|------------------------|
| Coal miners | 21,366 | 52,000,000 tons of ore |
| Iron miners | 2,098 | 2,250,000 " |
| Lead miners | 2,617 | 65,000 " |
| Copper miners | 1,468 | 11,000 " |
| Tin miners | 1,912 | 9,000 " |

This population, in a great measure, exists in mines which are distinguished from the workshops of other operatives by the peculiarities of the temperature, pressure, moisture, and composition of the air, of the gases, and miasmas which prevail in them, by the absence of sunlight, and by the mode of lighting, quite as such as the motions and working positions of the men differ from those belonging to any other occupation. In the deeper parts of his operations, the miner is liable to be stopped or overwhelmed by water or carbonic acid; in the higher parts he may be suffocated or destroyed by irrespirable and explosive gases; and if he enters but a very short distance beyond the supplying current of atmospheric air, the oxygen rapidly falls below the proportion necessary to support life. The effect on the lives and health of miners, by having to ascend many hundred yards of almost perpendicular ladders at the end of the day's work, has been ever found very serious; his heart beating as if ready to burst, his whole frame bedewed with sweat, and his strength ready to pass from the extreme of feverish excitement into the opposite state of perilous exhaustion. "The pulse," according to the high medical authority of Dr. CARLYON, a member of the Royal Cornwall Polytechnic Society, "is at this time on an average double as quick as in the natural state, and the respiration at least quickened in the same proportion." The mischief done to the vital functions, to the muscles and the lungs, is still further aggravated by the want of ventilation in many ladder shafts, and in others by their being made to serve as upcast shafts—that is, to bring the air out of the mine, loaded with all the impurities collected in its course. Mr. MACKWORTH assured his audience that he spoke from experience in the deep coal mines of Belgium, the Neth of France, and in Saxony, as well as in this country; and that it was the opinion of the chief medical authorities, that climbing ladders in these shafts strike the first death blow to the constitutions of a large class of miners.

The merit of the introduction of the "fan-hunt" of the Hartz Mines, or man machine, as it is called in Cornwall, by which 100 men can at one time ascend without exertion, and with great safety from their work, is due to Sir CHARLES LEMON, as the members of the Cornwall Polytechnic Society. Three of these man-machines are now at work at the United Mines, Trevaun, and Fowey Consols. By a report of the first of these mines in 1845, it was shown that after deducting the cost of working the engine from the half-hour, said per day to 460 men and 50 boys, there was a clear saving of 8000. per annum, which would in three years pay the cost of the machine, without reckoning the saving in labour. The amount of the physical suffering which is alleviated is almost incalculable, and this benefit would, of itself, be full compensation for the outlay incurred in its erection; but the advantage, in a pecuniary point of view, which it affords are equally striking. It was thus described by Mr. MACKWORTH—"The single acting man-machine consists of a strong rod of wood or iron, extending the whole depth of the shaft, to which are fixed platforms about 4 feet by 2½ feet at intervals of 10 feet. There are corresponding platforms fixed at the same distances to the sides of the shaft. The rod

has a reciprocating motion up and down of 10 feet, communicated to it by the crank of a water-wheel or steam-engine. Now, a person stepping on the rod when it is about to go up, and off it on to the side platform when it is about to go down, and repeating the operation at every ascending of the rod, would arrive without effort at the top. One man can be on each platform at a time. In the double machine there are two rods, which move up and down alternately; and, therefore, double the speed of the ascent."

The sad effects of constrained attitude, and of laborious exertion in a contracted space, are early visible in miners and colliers who labour chiefly in the kneeling or sitting posture, with the body painfully bent in an unnatural atmosphere, often containing carburetted hydrogen and carbonic acid gases with artificial light. They are also exposed to changes of temperature, and occasionally work with their feet in water, and the constant complaints are accordingly asthma, rheumatism, diseases of the head, and intolerance of light, evidently resulting from circumstances connected with their employment, and their exclusion from the beneficial influences of sunshine, light, and air.

Mr. MACKWORTH illustrated the relative temperature of mines by some interesting tables. The temperature of the rocks which the miner has to penetrate increase in depth according to a somewhat uniform ratio, but varying according to the description of rock passed through. The extensive experiments of Mr. HARWOOD, conducted in the Cornish mines, summed up in the following table, which exhibits the difference between the temperature of granite and slate rock:—

| Depth in fathoms of observation. | In Slate. | In Granite. |
|----------------------------------|-----------|-------------|
| Surface to 50 | Fah. 57 | Fah. 57 |
| 51 to 100 | 61.3 | 63.3 |
| 100 to 150 | 68 | 69.5 |
| 150 to 200 | 78 | 78 |
| 200 and upwards | 85.6 | 81.3 |

The increments of temperature are given in the next table, commencing with a normal temperature at the surface of 50°, which correspond nearly with the temperature 53°, observed in the caves of the Observatory at Paris, at a depth of 92 feet:—

| DEPTH. | Granite. | Slate. | Rock. | Cross-veins. | Lodes. | Tin lodes. | Loose yielding both tin and copper ores. | Copper lodes. |
|---------------------|----------|--------|-------|--------------|--------|------------|--|---------------|
| Surface to 50 fms. | Fms. 9.3 | 5.0 | 5.8 | 8.2 | 6.0 | 8.6 | 6.5 | 4.0 |
| 50 to 100 fms. | " 9.1 | 7.1 | 8.1 | 0.0 | 8.3 | 7.3 | 6.4 | 8.5 |
| 100 to 150 fms. | " 8.3 | 8.3 | 6.7 | 11.0 | 7.8 | 8.5 | 10.5 | 8.0 |
| 150 to 200 fms. | " 4.4 | 3.7 | 4.9 | 6.3 | — | 3.0 | 4.5 | 6.1 |
| 200 fms. and beyond | " 7.5 | 6.5 | 9.5 | 3.9 | 5.2 | 5.1 | — | 6.6 |
| Mean | " 8.5 | 6.2 | 6.7 | 6.8 | 6.7 | 7.3 | 6.6 | 6.4 |

Mr. MACKWORTH has invariably found the temperature of the air in the working places of mines exceedingly variable; but frequently very much higher in the metallic than in the coal mines. In the Monks-mouth Colliery, at a depth of about 600 yards, the temperature ranged from 78° to 80°, and occasionally reached 89°, although the temperature of the fire-damp rising through water was from 69° to 73°.

The following experiments by Mr. MAMMATT, in the Marquis of Leicester's Colliery, will illustrate the changes of temperature undergone by the air in passing through a mine:—

| | Fah. | Fah. | Fah. | Fah. | Fah. |
|-----------------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|
| At the surface | 57 | 62 | 57 | 50 | 57 |
| At 120 yards deep | 78 | 60 | 55 | 51 | 56 |
| At 246 yards deep | 68 | 59 | 55 | 53 | 58 |
| Horae road between shaft and work | — | 60 | 60 | 57 | 58 |
| The workings | 73 | 69 | 67 | 68 | 69 |
| In the gobbling or floor | — | 67 | 68 | 68 | 69 |
| Salt water in the airway | — | 63 | 61 | 61 | 60 |
| In the ingress airway | — | 66 | 64 | 64 | 66 |
| In the egress airway | — | 69 | 68 | 67 | 68 |
| Men and lads in the pit | — | 81 | 81 | 80 | 80 |
| Horae | — | 21 | 21 | 21 | 22 |
| Candles lighted | — | 100 | 96 | 100 | 100 |

The workings are from 800 to 1200 yards distant from the shaft bottom.

It has been approximately determined that a deficiency of oxygen of 10 per cent., or an excess of carbonic acid gas amounting to 8 per cent., will quickly produce stupor, and eventually death. Instances have been frequently met with in mines where the men were obliged to work in the dark from want of ventilation, some being pointed out to him who was particularly good hands at it, and Mr. MACKWORTH had had occasion to spend the night in parts of mines where the candles were only kept alight by being tied two or three together, and held horizontally. A few months ago, the manager of a colliery was killed by remaining 10 minutes in a place where the men had at last refused to work. Defects in the atmosphere of smaller amount the miners do not feel, except in the sensation of lassitude, and difficulty of prolonged exertion. Their exclusive attention was directed to keep the candles burning, a very necessary caution, for in passing slowly through the air in the main road, his candle sometimes went out 10 or 20 times, and he had seldom visited mines not containing explosive gases where there was sufficient oxygen to keep a light burning throughout the parts in work. These, then, are the ordinary limits within which a miner has not only to live, but to carry on a laborious occupation.

Our space will not, of course, permit us to follow Mr. MACKWORTH through his highly-important and interesting investigations, but it appears that the average age of miners living varies from 25.7 years in the case of tin miners, to 28.9 amongst lead miners, being a difference of about three years, but this is accounted for by the tin miners commencing work at 10½ years of age, the lead miners not till above 13 years, on the average. These are the extremes of age, within which, on an average, each of the five classes of miners begin work. The result bears out the previous quotation as to iron mines being the unhealthiest of all; for notwithstanding that the men do not commence work until 13 or 14 years of age, their span of labour only reaches 25.4 years, which is 6 years below the average time in which a miner wears out. The machine lasts but 27.7 years, whilst 42.3 years are got out of the agricultural labourer. In other words, the lives of the miners, in addition to excessive sickness and diminished strength, are shortened by an amount equivalent to more than half their working life.

Mr. MACKWORTH concluded this important paper with the following recommendations for improving the sanitary condition of mines:—

"1. That an artificial power and other means of ventilation, under the constant superintendence of appointed persons, should be employed at every mine, so as to produce at all times a regular current of pure air into and throughout the whole of the working places and parts of a mine past every workman, and so as to dilute and render imperceptible and harmless all noxious gases at the points where they are given off. That the velocity and abundance of the current of air, which must be easily accessible for examination and repairs at all points, should be regulated to the extent of the works, the number of workmen, and the escape or formation of gases and other nuisances.

"2. The dung-heaps, putrescent timber, and similar nuisances, should be removed from the mine at least once a month, and the exhalations at all times carefully prevented from mixing with the incoming air.

"3. That a medical officer should examine the sanitary state of the mine at least twice a year, and report thereon to the owners and to the Government.

"4. That there should be an accident-room at every work, provided with necessaries, and inspected once a week by the medical officer.

"5. That a benefit society should be established at every mine, at the joint expense, and under the joint management, of the proprietors and workmen, to provide medical attendance for the workmen and their families, to support them when sick or wounded, and to pension them off when too old or maimed to gain a livelihood."

We had this acknowledgment towards the close, from the eminent author of the paper, that he was once sanguine enough to suppose that persuasion and argument would have induced persons to adopt plans for improving the health of the miners they employed, which had been found in other places, under similar circumstances, remunerative. His present conviction, however, was, that although such means may be indefinitely pursued, yet that, if alone trusted to, the present race of miners will be swept from the earth before these recommendations are adopted in any quarter of the mines of this country. The vital improvements required, as well for saving as for enlarging the sphere of human life, to an extent which it would not be difficult to calculate, rest with the masters, and with them alone. It is due to the mining population to state that the lamentable causes affecting human health and life, to which he referred, were not attributable to the recklessness of the miners, who, it must be remembered, exhibited in their petitions a just appreciation of the position

which attended their progress. Mr. MACKWORTH deserves well of the country for directing attention to the subject; and if the necessity of a sanitary measure is to be the first index to legislation, then mines undoubtedly are the first places in respect of which it ought to begin. While he admitted that it was painful to him to form so low an estimate of this division of pathological progress, or to give the palm in any respect to other nations, we had a duty to perform to other generations as well as to our own, and more social good might be effected by looking into our deficiencies, than in counting up our triumphs.

Although the refuse produce of smelting furnaces, in the shape of slag, has long been applied to building and other uses in this country, it cannot be said to have yet acquired a commercial importance. The introduction into England, on an extensive scale, of a new manufacture, which promises to convert a substance hitherto considered comparatively worthless to purposes of great practical utility, will necessarily form an era in the progressive industrial history of the country. Fully impressed with its value and importance, we devoted some of our space, in our last Journal, to the paper read by Dr. SMITH, of Philadelphia (U.S.), "On the Utilisation of the Molten Mineral Products of Smelting Furnaces." In the interesting discussion which followed the reading of that paper, its learned author, in compliance with the general expressed wishes of the meeting, entered into explanations of the process by which he proposed to effect the economical utilisation of slag. The manufacture necessarily called into requisition many applications, combinations, and modifications of machinery for the various processes of casting, rolling, pressing, annealing, grinding, and polishing, the details of which could not, of course, be fully illustrated; but the main features of the plan adopted consisted in the use of pure slag in its most favourable molten condition. It was necessary to protect the slag from all admixture of foreign ingredients, carefully refining it, so as to secure a uniform homogeneous product; it was not run directly out of the smelting furnace into moulds, inasmuch as that system rendered the material unfit for adaptation to the production of articles of commercial value. The preferable mode was to work the slag out of a chamber in connection with the furnace hearth, in which chamber the slag was allowed to accumulate for use; or if this arrangement was attended with local inconvenience, the slag was withdrawn through covered conduits from the smelting furnace into a wagon, or car, or large ladle. It was there refined by subsiding, and then run into moulds from orifices made in the side of the receiver at different elevations, for the slag received from the bottom was found to be more dense and valuable than that from the top. Its improved condition was caused in part by pressure, in part by the separation of matters in mechanical combination, and in part by the escape of uncombined gas. In making the more valuable classes of manufactured articles, a reverberatory furnace was substituted for that receiver, or the receiver was itself so constructed as to allow of the elevation, or uniform maintenance of the heat of the slag while it was being refined and coloured. Different modifications of furnaces were required for different forms, sizes, and qualities of the manufactured material; those for annealing could be located near the smelting furnace, or at any desirable distance from it, not, however, to exceed 300 yards; but the grinding and polishing processes also required special adaptation of machinery. The re-melting of the slag would not be economical, but for certain classes of ware broken fragments of cold slag were fused or cemented together by means of the application of hot or molten slag; and bricks, blocks, and various other foreign substances, made of clay, ironstone, &c., could be coated or enamelled with fluid slag.

Mr. CAMERON, in adding the testimony of his experience of the invention for the last 12 months, stated that on the arrival of Dr. SMITH from America, through the kindness of the proprietors of the Dowlais Iron-Works, he had been himself enabled to erect an oven, and to make several very beautiful samples, fully bearing out all that had been represented. He afterwards erected annealing ovens in France and elsewhere, to test the different slags, and although his experiments were made more to ascertain the value of the invention than to produce perfect articles, they were invariably attended with the same successful results. Mr. CAMERON also explained that the annealing ovens used by him were not retort ovens, which were absolutely required to produce a perfect and uniform material, and the result was that the heat, playing unequally on the ware, caused one piece to be thoroughly devitrified, while another piece in which the heat had not been so great was in a vitrified state. Mr. DAVISON, the then resident engineer of the Dowlais Works, fully confirmed the statements of Mr. CAMERON, and mentioned that one of his sons, a boy of 15 years of age, then present, had himself produced some of the specimens submitted to the meeting. In the operation the slag was simply poured into rings, or moulds, of any form, placed on a heated iron plate, and when so far "set" as to admit of its removal, it was immediately transferred to the annealing oven, where after two or three hours regulation of the heat, on which all depended, every aperture was closed, and the oven, with its contents, allowed to cool down to the temperature of the surrounding atmosphere. The slag itself, as at present run from the furnace, was not only useless, but also costs the ironmasters from 9d. to 1s. per ton, and often much more, in its removal; it was not too much to say that 150,000, besides the material itself, was annually thrown away in Great Britain. Common paving-tiles, and the like, made of annealed slag, 1 in. to 1½ in. in thickness, without entering into the question of profit, might be delivered in London at a sum varying from 1½d. to 2½d. per superficial foot; but with regard to the polished article, it was difficult to estimate its price, as some of it was so beautiful as to excel the finest marble. Mr. DAVISON concluded by declaring that he had formed a high opinion of the subject some six or eight months since, when the experiments were proceeding at Dowlais, and that high opinion had continued to the present time unabated. Prof. WILSON fully coincided in the importance of the subject, the enormous masses of the material at hand, and the little cost at which it could be worked, deserved the attention of the ironmasters, and of scientific men; and the excellent paper of Dr. SMITH would, he had no doubt, tend materially to aid in the establishment of what he hoped he might be able to term a new industry.

We have above premised that the use of slag for certain purposes is not a novelty, even in these islands. During the discussion Mr. NESBITT stated that in 1846 or 1847 he had been called on professionally to advise upon making stone out of the slags of iron furnaces, and he observed that he undertook a long series of experiments, some of them at the iron-works of St. Etienne, in France. He erected an apparatus upon his own premises, and operated upon slags from all parts of England and Scotland, and also from Wales. The result of these experiments was a patent taken out about the above period, in which the process was very simply described; it consisted in moulding the slags on iron plates, and then annealing them. A large quantity of paving-slugs were accordingly made, some of which were laid down in the Place de la Bourse, in Paris, where he believed that they remained to this date. A question having been raised with regard to the hardness of the material so prepared, a report was procured from the Prefect of the Seine, which showed the resistance of this article to crushing power. A number of small cubes, 2½ in. square of granite and other materials, were submitted to pressure, together with similar cubes of this lava, and the comparative resistance to crushing power of the various substances tested was given as follows, in kilogrammes:—1. Great rock of the plain of Paris was crushed with a weight of 4125.—2. The lias of Bagneux with 7238.—3. The granite of St. Honorine with 7498.—4. Granite of Flainville with 8705.—5. Black marble of Italy with 10,696.—6. The artificial lava with 17,280, equal to nearly 12½ tons. Mr. CHARLES MAY referred to and produced specimens of an analogous substance, manufactured by Messrs. CHANCE, of Birmingham, from the Rowley rag, or basaltic rock of Dudley, apparently similar, but possibly a little more homogeneous in its composition. From this substance there had been produced castings of corbels and quoins for buildings and various other articles, which by annealing returned to the basaltic state, or by rolling remained vitreous like glass; and Mr. MAY thought that from being more homogeneous than slag, it would be found a better article, and nearly as cheap. Mr. AUSTEN observed, in reference to the manufacture of Messrs. CHANCE, that as the basalt had to be dug from the earth and brought from the strata, he thought it would be found too expensive to compete with the production direct from the slag. Dr. NOAD observed, that when the slag was allowed to cool gradually, and in large masses, fine crystals were found lining cavities in the interior of the blocks, and these crystals had a composition which placed them amongst the anartz, or pyroxene class of minerals. When cooled rapidly the surface of the slag became vitreous and extremely brittle, but when this glassy coating was removed the slag underneath was as hard and as firm as a native rock; that it would stand weather, was proved by walls built of it having remained sound and firm for many years. Mr. BEARD vouched for the durability of the slag, for

as manufactured by himself, and used for the coping of walls, and in some cases for ornamental purposes, in the town in which he resided (Taunton); it had stood for 40 years, and the large pieces of coping were as good as on the first day.

Dr. SMITH begged to disclaim the idea that there was anything novel in the working of slag by simply running it from the smelting-furnace in its crude state, for that had been done in different countries for centuries past. The novelty consisted in the adaptation of slag by refining it to the production of articles of commercial value, for unless refined and carefully separated from all foreign ingredients, it could not be properly annealed, or profitably manufactured. Slag had not, he believed, been thus utilized either in France or any other country, except in accordance with this process, which he had secured in Great Britain, France, Belgium, America, Sweden, Austria, and other countries, by several patents, comprised in claims and specifications too numerous to be repeated. In conclusion, he referred to the samples in a variety of forms before the meeting, which he had been favoured with permission to make from the slag of the Dowlais and Ebbw Vale Iron-works, in Wales, and which showed that those furnaces yielded slag, as to liquidity, colour, and in other respects, of a very superior quality.

Objections will probably be made by geologists to the statement that the prepared slag presents the appearance and possesses the qualities of stone, on the assumption that they are both purely and essentially vitreous. We have, however, ourselves carefully examined the specimens; we observed in them the two distinct properties, and we are assured that both are the positive results of different degrees of heat applied in the manufacture. The vitreous appearance can, in other words, be converted into that of stone, or the substance, as Dr. SMITH termed it, devitrified by the application and regulation of the heat.

It has frequently been our duty, in the interest of the public, to hold up to reprehension the conduct of the managers of various gold mining companies, both Australian and Californian, who appeared to act for their own benefit alone, without consideration for that of the unfortunate shareholders. We have, however, a more pleasing task upon the present occasion, in calling the attention of our readers to the report of the meeting of the AGUA FRIA GOLD MINING COMPANY, which appeared in our Journal of last week.

A full and explicit statement of accounts was submitted to the meeting, which presented several remarkable features. The whole expenditure of the mine at Gold Hill, including not only the ordinary mine cost, but the outlay for various extra works mentioned in the report which should have been borne by the capital, had it not proved insufficient, was 27,812. 8s. 1d., against which gold had been obtained to the value of 21,616. 7s. 8d. The engineer, Mr. ATTWOOD, bears the very highest character, as may be seen from the independent testimony given in another column of our impression; and from his statements as to the cost per ton of raising and reducing the quartz, there can be little doubt that were the items fairly chargeable to capital separated from the account, a profit would be shown on the small and intermittent working of the last nine months of upwards of 4000l. The expenses of management in England are very creditable. They have averaged less than 600l. a year—an amount singularly small, probably smaller than that of any other company relatively to the capital subscribed. The directors have not received any remuneration for their services, and refuse to do so until the mine shows a profit. Yet, with courage and liberality rarely displayed by directors in similar circumstances, these gentlemen have not hesitated to take on their own shoulders debts unavoidably incurred in the prosecution of the undertaking to the extent of nearly 10,000l. It was to relieve them from this burden, and furnish funds for carrying out the objects of the company to a successful issue, that the meeting empowered the directors to raise a sum of 15,000l. by the issue of debentures, bearing interest at 15 per cent. The committee appointed to confer with the directors have, we are informed, unanimously agreed as to the propriety of raising this sum, and invited the shareholders to come forward and join in doing so.

We can scarcely suppose that, disappointed as they may be with hope deferred, they will hesitate in responding to the appeal. The profits on the working for the last nine months, as shown above, capable of paying 30 per cent. on the amount required; and by employing the mill to one-half its power merely as reduction-works, in crushing quartz for other mine-owners, it appears by the directors' report that those profits may be at least doubled. It is distinctly stated, as indeed is evident, that if the money is not raised, the property must be sold. A business capable of making such returns will probably not fail in finding a purchaser, although, if sold under such circumstances, the price realised to the shareholders is as likely to prove a mere fraction of its value. But it would betray a lamentable want of discernment to allow a company, so honourably conducted as this appears to be, to cope with such fair prospects of success, for want of an amount really insignificant when divided over so many shares. Let the shareholder come forward, one and all, to take their share of the present responsibility, and we may reasonably hope they will eventually reap the reward of their patience and enterprise.

As will be seen from the report of the meeting in another column, the directors of the MOUNT CARBON MINING COMPANY have been empowered by the shareholders to raise the necessary funds for the purpose of energetically prosecuting operations, by the issue of debenture bonds, secured by mortgage on the 8500 acre of coal lands, held in trust for the association. This, to our thinking, is a much better plan than at the present period of trusting reserves on the market at a discount; and the advantages offered by the directors are such that we opine they will not be obliged to have much recourse to the public, but the bonds will be taken up by the shareholder. The capital stock of the company is reduced from 150,000 to 80,000 shares, and by this conversion a considerable advantage is derived by the existing proprietors.

As soon as the scrip is exchanged it is proposed that an enrolment of the shareholders should take place; many of these have objected to this, fancying that it is but another name for registration, and if they comply with this that they will not be subject to the provisions of the Joint-Stock Companies Act. This is not the case; the association is working under a charter from the State of Virginia and is, consequently, not liable to English or American laws. Nor is this instance singular, there being several companies which are working in London under charters from foreign states, and governed by the laws and customs of the countries which grant them. The utility of enrolment is, that the directors will be enabled, from time to time, to know who are their shareholders, and thus have the power of more ready communicating with them.

The great evil that has hitherto impeded the operations of the company appears to have been the limited resources they possessed for developing such an extensive and valuable property. Mr. GRIFFIN, the agent, reports that, if he had the command of money he should be able to effect much more as an instance, he cites in one of his despatches that if he had the means he could purchase a steam tug at barges for the conveyance of coals to Cincinnati at less than one-half the price they would cost for building. According to Prof. AUSTEN's report on a calculation of the cost of 1,000,000 bushels of coals annually, he estimates the profit would be 40,000 yearly; and it must be remembered that this account he has taken a wide margin, giving 10 per cent. for loss on river, and waste at Cincinnati, making a total of waste and loss 150,000 bushels. Although it must be admitted that, in the shipment of warehousing of so friable a mineral as coal, some waste and loss must arise, yet it is idle to suppose that it can, with ordinary care, be anything approaching to the quantity estimated. At the same time, as there is an increasing demand for coals, there is every reason to suppose that the price will be materially enhanced. The improvement of the navigation of the Kanawha River will likewise decrease the cost of transport, and facilitate the bringing of the company's produce to market. It is needless for us further to remark on the prospects of the company, they having been so fully detailed in the report alluded to. An advantage offered to the bondholders is, that at any time during the six years after which period the bonds are redeemable they have the option of converting them into shares, the company at par value, while the 10,000 shares set aside are another guarantee for the due fulfilment of the contract. In less advantageous periods, companies offering a less security have raised larger amounts on debentures. The benefits offered are fully detailed in the report of the committee and, as we have before expressed, we should imagine that the property will not be so blind to their own interests as to allow the public to participate in benefits which their patience and capital has earned for them. It appears that a comparatively small sum of money is further required to adequately bring the property to a dividend-paying state; but order that this should be done effectually, it should be done quick and nothing would give the general

public greater confidence in the undertaking than to perceive the shareholders were availing themselves of the advantages offered by the directors, and the best method to effect this is by lending money on their own debentures.

The COMPANY OF COPPER MINERS IN ENGLAND have held their annual Court; the trade profits for the last year have amounted to 24,504. 1s. 2d., and on this a dividend of 7½ per cent. has been declared on the preference shares, and 1 per cent. on the consolidated stock. In making their report, the committee state that had it not been for the high rate of wages, stagnation of trade, and decline in prices, they would have been enabled to declare a much larger dividend.

Although it has been stated by some that the stock does not carry with it its commensurate value in the market, yet when the circumstance is taken into consideration that at the period the Court increased the preference shares from 8000 to 12,000, they received applications for 5000, it shows that the proprietors have great confidence in the governing body. At the meeting a considerable discussion took place as to whether the accounts should be published or not; ultimately a balance-sheet was presented, showing a gross profit of 26,241. 0s. 11d., while the liabilities were 18,138. 7s. 6d.; of this amount only 6000l. was for trade debts, the rest being part of the purchase money, and payable over a term of six years. The propriety of the publication of accounts was much canvassed; and the directors stated that, although they had nothing to conceal from their proprietors, yet that as they were a trading company, it would be imprudent that their accounts should be published, and thereby invite competition; on the other hand, it was contended that in the case of the old company, the proprietors were informed they were in a prosperous condition, the accounts were concealed, when suddenly they were told the company was in a state of insolvency, and the property was mortgaged to the Bank of England. Although it would not be prudent in a company so constituted as the Company of Copper Miners in England to publish every item of their trade any more than private establishments, yet, as a public body, it is their bounden duty to present a balance-sheet to their proprietors: had such been the case, the probabilities are that the old association would not have been entangled in those difficulties which required an Act of Parliament to extricate it from.

We have always deprecated hole and corner proceedings; yet, at the same time we consider that everything should be open to those interested, it may be unwise that too much publicity should be courted, more especially in a trading company, whose operations depend so much on the fluctuations of the market. It is to be regretted that the prosperity of the association is still retarded by litigation; Mr. LOMB having, notwithstanding the award of the arbitrator, filed a bill in Chancery against the company. In this proceeding he appears to stand alone, if we are to judge from the unanimity which prevailed at the meeting, condemnatory of his proceedings. Whatever may be the nature of his claims, the Court appeared to have met them in a fair spirit, and having once referred the case to arbitration, we think both parties should stand by the award. Apart from this untoward subject, it appears that, owing to the energetic management of Mr. W. GILBERTSON, the operations at Cwm Avon have progressed satisfactorily and steadily, and the auditors' report fully bears out the value of the stock and plant. We may, therefore, assume that for a long period to come, under economical supervision and discreet management, the Governor and Company of Copper Miners in England will still occupy a prominent position among our great commercial companies.

The appearance of a second edition of Mr. MURCHISON's useful work, "British Mines considered as a Means of Investment," furnishes us with a favourable opportunity of presenting to public view what may be termed the bright side of mining. We the more gladly avail of the occasion, from the recent too frequent unhappy recurrence of lamentable results from defective management. The favourable reception given to the work by the press and the public encouraged the author to render this edition more worthy of approval; and, in addition to the useful information which it supplies, we adopt the returns which regularly appear in our Journal, and which are brought down to the most recent period, for the purpose of treating this interesting and important subject in a popular manner.

It must at the outset be acknowledged that a mine cannot become profitable at once—that time, capital, skill, and perseverance are necessary to render it so; but although some mines may, according to circumstances, require less than others, the great error is in expecting success too soon. Great disappointment necessarily attends every failure, but we may refer to some memorable cases of mines which were either abandoned, or on the eve of being so, but which, by subsequent perseverance and spirited application of capital, were rendered profitable and prosperous. Take, for instance, the Devon Great Consols, which, when the Great Wheal Maria, was abandoned by a former company, and the shares offered at a few shillings, yet this mine has, under its new management, divided 443,392l., and the original 17 shares are now worth from 370l. to 376l. each. The usual return, published in our last week's Journal, of the copper ore sold at Cornwall ticketings, will also show that these mines have, for the quarter ending the 30th of March, 1855, produced in ore 5689 tons, which realised 30,294. 16s. The Wheal Buller, also abandoned by its former owners as valueless, has now, under an improved system, become one of the most profitable mines in Cornwall. The outlay on Wheal Buller had been 1280l.: the dividends realised, to March, 1855, 170,560l. The original 51 shares reached 5500l., and are now ranging as high as 5300l. per share, a dividend of 25l. per share having been paid within the past month. The same return shows that the Wheal Buller, for the same quarter, sold 2736l. tons of ore, which produced in money 14,566l. 12s. 6d. West Basset Mine was purchased, after the failure of a previous company, by the promoters of the present one for a sum of 736l.; yet 15,000l. has been already divided, and the shares, on which 10l. 5s. was originally paid, now range between 28l. and 30l. per share, representing nearly 200,000l. for the mine—a value based, we are assured, on immense reserves of ore, and a prospect of large and continuous profits. We may refer also to two other mines, which were similarly circumstanced, Hingston Down and South Tamar, both a few years since in a condition which rendered it a doubtful question whether they ought to be persevered in or abandoned. The shares in Hingston Down, for which 6s. or 8s. per share could with difficulty at one time be procured, are now, with 3½l. paid upon them, selling at 10l. 10s. per share, 7650l. having been already divided, and the mine is now said to be making a profit of 1000l. per month. The shares in South Tamar, which were once at 11s. 6d., now sell for 6l., having already divided 19,125l. Many such cases might be adduced, but these are sufficient to show that there are failures in mining operations which cannot be traced or attributed to the merits of the speculation itself.

Success in mining, as in almost all other adventures, in a great measure depends on the management, and on the experience and practical ability of those to whom the superintendence is confided. Too indiscriminate a selection of mining captains has, we fear, often taken place, without sufficient regard to their previous education, or practical qualifications. In those cases in which prudent caution has been observed the value of the properties has advanced in a high ratio. Take, for instance, some of the leading Cornwall and Devon mines, and the following will be found an accurate statement of the sums originally paid for their shares, of the gross amount of dividends already paid on those shares, and in the instances not above enumerated, of their present market value. The sum of 17. was originally paid on 1024 shares in the Devon Great Consols, and the sum of 433l. has been already realised on each share, being, as above, a sum of 443,392l. in dividends received. In the Wheal Buller, the sum of 51. was originally paid on 256 shares: the sum of 651l. has been already received in dividends on each 51. share, being an aggregate, as above, of 170,560l. paid in dividends. The original price of the 256 shares in Wheal Basset was 10l. 5s. each, and 622l. 10s. has been already paid in dividends on each share, making a gross amount of dividends paid of 160,360l. The return we have above referred to, in respect of the other mines, shows the sale of ore at Cornwall ticketings of this mine for the quarter ending the 30th of March, 1855, 1757 tons of ore, producing in money 13,907. 4s. 6d. On the 6000 shares of the West Basset, 15. 10s. was paid per share, in respect of which a sum of 21. 10s. has been already received in dividends, making an aggregate of 15,000l. A sum of 20l. was paid upon each of the 256 shares in West Caradon: the present market price is 170l., and 265l. 5s. has been already received in dividends upon each share, making an aggregate of 67,904l. in dividends. In South Wheal Frances, a sum of 37l. 17s. 6d. has been paid on 248 shares; while the present price per share is 355l., and a sum of 276l. 5s. has been received in dividends, making an aggregate of 61,510l. for dividends paid. The South Caradon is divided into 256 shares, on each of which a sum of 21. 10s. has been paid, now worth 310l.; and on this original investment a sum of 359l. has been al-

• By J. H. MURCHISON, F.G.S. London: Mining Journal Office, 20, Fleet-street.

ready paid in dividends, making an aggregate in dividends received of 91,648. The original shares in the Carn Brea were 151; they now produce 851, on each of which dividends have been paid of 229. 10s., making an aggregate in dividends of 229,600. On the 6000 shares of the North Wheal Basset (Illogan), nothing whatever would appear to have been paid; each share, however, is now worth 19s., while a sum of 41. 1s. has been received in dividends on each share, making an aggregate of 24,300. already received in dividends. On the 160 shares in the Levant Mine, 24. 10s. has been paid on each share, the present price is 100s. per share, and no less than 1044. received in dividends, making an aggregate of dividends received of 178,640.

We have here stated quite sufficient of the mines of Cornwall and Devon, and we may turn for awhile to others. On each of the 20 shares of the Laxey Company, in the Isle of Man, a sum of 100s. had been paid: each share is now worth 1000s., and 1300s. has been already paid in dividends: a dividend of 50s. was paid on each share in February last; and thus, on a subscribed capital of 2000s., 26,000s. has been already received in dividends. A sum of 187. 15s. has been already paid on each of the 400 shares of the Lisburne Lead Mines, Cardiganshire: that share now sells for 195s., and 218s. 15s. has been received in dividends on each share, making an aggregate of dividends received of 87,500s. Cornwall and Wales are, however, not singular; for we have repeatedly directed attention to the prosperous results of good management in the cases of the Mining Company, and Wicklow Copper Mines, in Ireland.

When we turn from the bright side of the picture, we can trace ill-success in many instances to defective management, and the injudicious selection of parties to whose control the properties were confided. Mr. Munro very justly observes, that there is at present too indiscriminate an appointment of mining captains, without any means of judging of the qualifications of a large proportion of them. We also fully concur in the complaint, that the want of support which British mines meet with is the chief cause of the losses incurred in them. The insufficiency of capital, and the want of punctuality in the payment of calls, lead to further mischief, for they prevent the spirited and economical carrying on of the works of progressive mines, compel companies to take credit from merchants for supplies, necessarily tending to the payment of higher prices. We sincerely hope that in the long-promised measure for limiting liability in joint-stock associations, those formed for the purpose of conducting legitimate mining operations will not be forgotten.

This notice, necessarily brief and limited, fully sustains the position from which we started—that success in mining, as in every other branch of trade, and as also in war, is the result of good administration, proper men and a proper system; the judicious enquiry, therefore, for parties anxious to invest in mining adventures, is to ascertain, to whose hands the management has been confided.

THE IRON AND METAL TRADES OF SOUTH STAFFORDSHIRE.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT IN BIRMINGHAM.]

APRIL 5.—All those who have to write now upon the iron trade of South Staffordshire are at their wits end for a new fact. There is nothing original to be had; all is surmise and speculation. We have not, as was gloomily anticipated by some, arrived at any terrible crisis; nor have we regained our lost orders as rapidly as the more sanguine anticipated: still we are not without orders, and good ones; nor are we without hopes of a continuance of them, although certainly not to the extent we have hitherto enjoyed. The great mischief was done in so rapidly increasing our powers of production. However they might have been requisite for an extraordinary demand, they were far beyond the requirements of ordinary consumption, and hence a considerable amount of the present embarrassment arises from the stoppage of the extraordinary works set in motion during the last two years. The reduction made last week of 20s. per ton has given satisfaction amongst the hardware and other manufacturers, and it is to be hoped that remunerative prices may now be upheld. Nearly all the thin coal men have resumed work, but there are many of the thick coal men, whose notices for reduction of 1s. per day expired on Friday last, who have not resumed work, nor will they until completely beaten out, and they can no longer resist. Strong fears having been entertained that they would play off the same insane game of violence by which a portion of the district was disgraced a fortnight ago, the magistrates have taken every possible precaution for the preservation of the peace. Special constables have been sworn in in the neighbourhood of Dudley and Brierly-hill. The yeomanry cavalry are also under orders to be in readiness in the event of their services being required. It is, however, to be hoped that their services will not be needed, and that the men may be induced to return to their pits. The quarterly meetings fixed for next week are looked forward to with considerable interest, although it is highly probable they will pass over, as all the others have done for the last half century; some may require a little more time, and others throw down their checks, as usual, regardless of it. Although there may be a good deal of underselling going on, notwithstanding the resolution of the preliminary meeting, still it is generally understood that, unless some extraordinary and unforeseen circumstances shall occur between now and the meetings, the large houses will not abandon the resolution, but endeavour, as they ought to do, to maintain something like a fixed remunerative price. The wages question being now settled, underselling will find its level. There can be no further reduction of wages to enable needy makers to sell at ruinous prices, and those who do sell at figures materially under the prices fixed by the trade, must do so at the expense of those who will not be insensible to the probable consequences of such a system of underselling. The orders from America, by the latest arrivals, continue to show an increased restoration of trade and confidence in the United States; although they are not so numerous as could be desired, they are nevertheless valuable, and if continued up to, and throughout, the quarterly meetings cannot fail to exercise a beneficial influence in upholding the market.

In the Coal Trade the stocks are exceedingly low at the wharfs, &c., and unless the colliers speedily resume work, there will be considerable difficulty in finding sufficient fuel for carrying on the large works of the district. The Canock Chase Mines are reported as yielding to an extent even far beyond what was anticipated, and the quantity of coal sent away from them daily by the South Staffordshire line for distant markets is very great.

The principal feature in the heavy Manufacturing Department is the manufacture of marine-boilers and general military and naval stores. At Smethwick Works, West Bromwich, and others, they have in course of execution orders for boilers, cables, chains, &c., to a very considerable extent, and shot and shells are also weekly leaving here in great quantities. In the hollow iron trade the demand is dull and prices low.

The Look and Hinge Trade of Darlaston are also inactive, and circulars have lately been issued announcing a reduction upon these articles. The general Factoring Trade of Wolverhampton has also undergone lately an unfavourable change, the general amount of business now being comparatively limited.

The general Hardware Trade of Birmingham is reported rather buoyant during the past week, with steady prices. There are various trades, however, suffering very considerably from depression, such as the Fancy Jewellery, Pearl Button, and light trades of that description. The Copper and Tin Trades remain as before, without any scarcity of the article or diminution of price.

In connection with the public meetings, in which we are locally interested, I may notice the bi-monthly meeting of the Rheidal United Mining Company held to-day, at their offices in this town, at which proprietors representing three-fourths of the shares were present, Mr. George Spilbury in the chair. The account showed a balance of 1204. 16s. 4d. in favour of the mine. A call of 1s. per share was rendered necessary by the severe weather having occasioned more than eight weeks delay in dressing ores. The report was most satisfactory, and informed the shareholders the wheel was actually at work, and that both it and the crushers were performing well, having already crushed much ore of an excellent quality, and the supplies from the levels were daily increasing. On the large stock already to surface 20 dressers of ore are now engaged, in addition to all the other labourers. Operations underground, in Nantglas level, promise great and profitable results, the ore being more solid and massive as they descend. In Rhurigg a valuable discovery has been made by clearing out an old pit, in which a large lode was found, superior in quality to any previously obtained. The blende can be stoped with great ease, in immense quantities, and prices very remunerative have been offered by several of the smelting companies.

The freight of the West India mail packet *Tyne*, which arrived at Southampton on Wednesday, included specie to the amount of £2,786,738 (or say 500,000), the largest quantity hitherto brought to that port in one ship.

THE IRON TRADE.

PRICES CURRENT OF BRITISH IRON, THE MEAN OF ACTUAL SALES IN THE LONDON MARKET, FROM JANUARY 1850, TO DECEMBER.

| Description. | Years. | Jan. | Feb. | March. | April. | May. | June. | July. | August. | Sept. | Oct. | Nov. | Dec. |
|---|--------|---------|--------|--------|--------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| RAILROAD IRON, F.O.B. Wales, or North-Eastern Coast of England. | 1850. | £5 7 6 | £5 8 9 | £5 2 6 | £5 0 0 | £5 0 0 | £1 17 6 | £4 12 6 | £4 12 6 | £4 12 6 | £4 12 6 | £4 15 0 | £4 18 6 |
| | 1851. | 5 1 8 | 5 0 0 | 5 0 10 | 5 7 6 | 5 0 0 | 5 0 0 | 5 0 0 | 4 18 8 | 4 17 6 | 4 17 6 | 4 15 9 | 4 18 6 |
| | 1852. | 4 16 10 | 4 9 2 | 4 9 2 | 4 18 9 | 5 7 6 | 5 19 9 | 6 2 6 | 6 0 0 | 6 11 3 | 7 8 4 | 8 1 0 | 8 5 0 |
| | 1853. | 9 11 8 | 8 17 6 | 8 17 6 | 8 10 0 | 8 7 6 | 8 7 6 | 8 10 0 | 8 12 6 | 8 12 6 | 8 10 0 | 7 17 6 | 8 2 6 |
| | 1854. | 8 0 0 | 8 6 6 | 8 2 6 | 7 11 6 | 7 15 0 | 7 15 0 | 7 15 0 | 7 5 6 | 7 0 0 | 7 0 0 | 6 17 6 | 6 17 6 |
| WELSH BAR IRON, F.O.B. Newport or Cardiff. | 1850. | 5 6 3 | 5 6 3 | 5 0 0 | 5 0 0 | 4 13 9 | 4 10 0 | 4 11 3 | 4 12 6 | 4 11 3 | 4 11 3 | 4 12 6 | 4 18 6 |
| | 1851. | 4 17 9 | 4 13 9 | 4 15 0 | 4 16 3 | 4 10 10 | 4 10 0 | 4 10 10 | 4 11 3 | 4 8 9 | 4 8 9 | 4 8 9 | 4 18 6 |
| | 1852. | 4 8 9 | 4 7 6 | 4 7 6 | 4 8 9 | 4 13 9 | 4 18 9 | 5 2 0 | 5 3 0 | 5 17 6 | 6 18 4 | 7 10 0 | 8 5 0 |
| | 1853. | 8 18 4 | 8 15 0 | 8 15 0 | 8 7 6 | 8 5 0 | 8 5 0 | 8 0 0 | 8 0 0 | 8 0 0 | 8 0 0 | 7 10 0 | 8 15 0 |
| | 1854. | 8 12 6 | 8 10 0 | 8 6 6 | 8 1 6 | 8 1 6 | 8 1 6 | 8 1 6 | 8 12 6 | 8 6 6 | 8 0 0 | 7 9 0 | 7 0 0 |
| SCOTCH PIG IRON, F.O.B. Glasgow. | 1850. | 2 9 0 | 2 9 0 | 2 4 6 | 2 2 2 | 2 4 6 | 2 5 3 | 2 4 0 | 2 4 6 | 2 2 6 | 2 3 0 | 2 3 6 | 2 3 6 |
| | 1851. | 2 3 10 | 2 4 0 | 2 2 6 | 2 2 0 | 2 0 2 | 2 0 2 | 2 0 2 | 2 0 2 | 2 0 2 | 2 0 2 | 2 0 2 | 2 0 2 |
| | 1852. | 1 18 0 | 1 17 2 | 1 16 0 | 1 16 3 | 1 18 2 | 2 0 2 | 2 0 2 | 2 0 2 | 2 0 2 | 2 0 2 | 2 0 2 | 2 0 2 |
| | 1853. | 3 6 6 | 3 16 6 | 2 13 5 | 2 13 3 | 2 11 2 | 2 13 6 | 2 17 11 | 2 7 6 | 3 4 10 | 3 9 0 | 3 18 0 | 3 18 0 |
| | 1854. | 3 15 6 | 3 17 0 | 3 17 0 | 4 0 0 | 4 7 6 | 4 10 0 | 4 2 6 | 4 4 0 | 4 2 0 | 4 1 6 | 3 12 6 | 3 6 6 |

* Average of last five years (1850-54), 6s. 8s. 3d.

+ Average of 2d five years (1850-54), 6s. 5s. 10d.

† Average of 3d five years (1850-54), 2s. 14s.

IRON AND COAL TRADES OF YORKSHIRE AND DERBYSHIRE.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT IN CHESTERFIELD.]

APRIL 5.—The iron trade is less depressed than it was some weeks ago, and the prices realised at Glasgow for Scotch pig-iron have induced an effort on the part of makers in other districts to obtain higher prices; in this, however, we think they will not succeed, as the demand does not keep pace with the supply, and the great reduction in the value of bars demands a corresponding lowering in the price of pig-iron; and as there now appears to be little probability of America purchasing rails to any extent, the consumption will be materially checked. The accounts from America are more cheering, so far as general orders are concerned; and a feeling prevails that the worst has passed over, and that the Americans are rallying from their panic. These occasions considerable orders for Sheffield goods; and as remittances are more abundantly received, we may expect a healthy trade with the States of Canada.

We regret to find a reluctance on the part of coal owners in Yorkshire to depart from the enormous and very injuriously high prices which have recently prevailed in the coal trade. We think this impolitic, and very destructive to the best interests of the country, which a short time will abundantly prove; and, indeed, stern necessity will soon force this step upon them. The reduction of 1s. per ton upon coals, which has taken place in some districts, will afford but little relief to the ironmaster, whilst it might easily have been conceded by the coal masters upon the articles furnished to the iron trade. The quarterly meetings of the iron masters take place next week, and they are looked forward to with considerable anxiety, as we shall then have a better opportunity of judging more accurately of the prospects of the future quarter.

An association, having for its object the prevention of boiler explosions, has been formed in Manchester, and it is expected to come into operation next week. It extends its influence over the principal manufacturing towns round Manchester, and it has met with the general concurrence and approval of mill-owners upwards of 200 firms having joined it, and many others having intimated their intention to do so. A chief inspector of boilers has been appointed; two districts have already been marked out, and on Tuesday last two sub-inspectors were appointed, one for each, at a salary of 2l. per week. They are practically acquainted with steam boilers, furnaces, and engines; and a portion of their duties will be to make indicator and safety-valve calculations. In the first instance, Mr. Longridge, the chief inspector, will make a tour through the districts, for the purpose of introducing himself to the members of the association, of making a brief general inspection, more particularly as regards the question of safety, and to learn the views and wishes of the members as to the extent of his supervision. He will subsequently attend at the office of the association in Manchester, every Tuesday, for the convenience of those of the members who may wish to consult or communicate with him. From the excellent mechanical education which Mr. Longridge has received, his great experience as an important and responsible situation, will enable him to discharge the important duties of his office with much intelligence and discretion. As this is the first association of the kind which has been formed in the great manufacturing metropolis of this nation, its movements will be watched with considerable interest. The importance of such a society to this manufacturing community cannot be overrated, because, next to accidents in coal mines, there have been more lives sacrificed from boiler explosions than from any other single cause. It is to be hoped, therefore, that the advantages which must accrue from a regular course of steam boiler inspection, will be such as to induce all our manufacturers to adopt the same plan. Mr. Eaton Hodgkinson, C.E., when giving evidence in the case of a recent boiler explosion at Bolton, says:—"The frequent occurrence of these accidents is attributable to various causes. The first which I shall mention arises from the too frequent wish among millowners to obtain their boilers and engines on the lowest possible terms, and the employment of men to attend them who are unfitted for the office, and are unable, by ignorance and want of time, to keep their clean and attend to them properly. Another cause arises, or is increased, from the great strength attributed to wrought iron, by engineers even the most eminent." He also said that if low-pressure boilers were converted into high-pressure ones, as was sometimes done, we might expect any and frequent explosions.

Mr. Grenville L. Holderness of Hulme, Manchester, whose invention for the ventilation of collieries is said to have been favourably received by the parliamentary committee on accidents in coal mines, suggests the following plan for the ventilation of emigrant ships:—"I propose (says Mr. Holderness) that a fireplace should be constructed in the hold of the vessels amidstships, and a steamboat of sufficient dimensions (either with or without engine). The fireplace should be so contrived that there should be no admission of air but through tubes which would communicate from all parts of the ship to the needed ventilation, direct through those tubes to the fireplace, the consequence would be that the current of air being continuous no noxious fluvia could accumulate. By steam from the boiler, cooking would be readily facilitated, besides from condensed steam some aid might be had in case of scarcity of fresh water. Another addition to the above might be made. A cistern underneath, or near to the fireplace, and connected therewith, containing chalk; so that if any accidental fire should take place, by pouring sulphuric acid through a tube (that should be connected with the cistern) carbonic gas would be produced; then, by closing up of the tubes, leaving those open where the fire originated, and closing the hatchways, the fire could not possibly make progress.

We understand an important discovery has just been made in one of the Derbyshire lead mines, as a great activity is apparent in that district, we purpose making a personal inspection, when our readers shall have the benefit of our visit to the Derbyshire lead mines and Derbyshire miners.

COAL-CUTTING MACHINE.—member of the North of England Institute of Mining Engineers writes:—"About a month ago, I was down one of the pits belonging to the Earl of Balcarres and Crawford, in company with Mr. Peace, the manager, who is the inventor of a machine for coal-cutting, worked by means of compressed air, with two 3½-inch cylinders, up to 6-horse power—it was the finishing a piece of work it had been set to perform. On applying the flexible air tube, about an inch in diameter, between the small metal air-pipe and the machine, it commenced cutting the coal, and completed a piece of work 200 yards long, 5 yards wide, and 4½ feet high, with wonderful alacrity, and without any visible means of producing so great a power. The machine is very compact, being only about 3 feet long by 2 feet wide and 2 feet high. It is so constructed that it will either travel on the rails of the tub carriage way, or on the sill of the mine, by means of casters, which are made to work in any direction by a man pushing it. The cutters move forward by their own power, 4 feet in length, while the machine remains fixed. The inventor is now making one of 10-horse power, which will be better adapted for general use, it being so finished to cut the blocks better fitted for market; the former one cuts perpendicularly and underneath the coal 4 feet, dust waste very little, the width the cut being 2 in. Machine No. 2, like No. 1, is a complete and strong piece of workmanship, being wholly of iron, metal, and brass, also so adapted as to cut horizontally and vertically. This is a great advantage; and being worked by compressed air, the refuse considerably improves the mine ventilation."

The electric telegraphs lately rented by Chevalier Bonelli for making trains communicate with each other while they are running, and thus prevent collisions, are being now established on the Turin and Truffarello Railway line, with a view to the utility of the invention.

SALES OF COPPER ORES.

Statement of copper ores sold at Swansea, by sundry Foreign and British Mines, for the quarter ending 31st March, 1855:—

| Mines. | Tons. | Amount. |
|------------------------|-------------|-------------------|
| Cobre | 3363 | £56,768 8 |
| African | 244 | 3,838 11 |
| Cuba | 340 | 4,948 14 |
| Kapunda | 138 | 4,264 2 |
| Chili | 110 | 3,614 3 |
| Australian | 42 | 663 12 |
| Spanish | 123 | 371 18 |
| Sydney | 15 | 232 10 |
| Tungkillo | 5 | 125 7 |
| Tucson | 5 | 62 10 |
| German | 127 | 50 12 |
| South African | 1 | 10 18 |
| IRISH. | | |
| Berehaven | 509 | £5,610 3 |
| Knockmahon | 398 | 4,673 10 |
| Holyford | 62 | 1,390 11 |
| Ballymurtagh | 415 | 1,468 13 |
| Cosheen | 54 | 609 6 |
| DEVON, &c. | | |
| Molland | 30 | £223 10 |
| Latier | 7 | 43 10 |
| SLAGS. | | |
| British | 123 | £40 19 0 |
| French | 92 | 178 4 |
| London | 2 | 136 10 |
| Banilla | 48 | 111 11 |
| Copper | 7 | 70 7 |
| RECAPITULATION. | | |
| Foreign mines | 4533 | £79,682 3 |
| Irish ditto | 1438 | 13,762 17 |
| Devon, &c. | 87 | 267 5 |
| Slags | 272 | 897 11 |
| Total | 6290 | £94,009 15 |

COMPANIES BY WHOM THE ABOVE WERE PURCHASED.

| Companies. | Tons. | Amount. |
|--|---------------|-------------------|
| Copper Mines' Company | 301 | £7,426 4 |
| Freeman and Co. | 531 | 6,123 5 |
| Grenfell and Sons | 712 | 10,599 5 |
| Sims, Williams, Nevill, and Co. | 499 | 9,414 2 |
| Vivian and Sons | 1038 | 16,219 9 |
| Williams, Foster, and Co. | 1658 | 18,607 5 |
| Mines Royal Company | 355 | 4,718 0 |
| English and Australian Company | 224 | 4,687 3 |
| British and Foreign | 115 | 3,516 4 |
| Mason and Elkington | 317 | 8,414 7 |
| F. Bankart | 330 | 5,358 10 |
| Total | 6290 | £94,009 15 |
| Quarter ending December, 1854 | 9017 | 134,691 5 |
| Ditto September, 1854 | 10921 | 145,282 2 |
| Ditto June, 1854 | 9708 | 134,294 2 |
| Total for the year | 35,926 | £508,577 4 |
| Quarterly average | 8,981 | 127,119 0 |
| Showing the last quarter to be under the average | 3,701 | 32,609 11 |

And the smallest in tonnage and money since the quarter ending March, 1850, was unusually less than for a series of years.

This falling off, being both as regards the foreign and Irish mines, need no comment from us; for unless the Burra Burra and Australian mines obtain sufficient miners to raise larger quantities of copper ore for the market, the present annual average is not likely to be kept up from the mines now in operation.

We understand that a miners' lamp, embracing some novelty of construction, has recently been perfected by Mr. Adolphus Pepper, brother to J. H. Pepper, Esq., of the Polytechnic Institution. The invention is said to comprise the means for obtaining a more diffused light, in conjunction with a greater degree of safety than hitherto attainable, the lamp also being of a simple and inexpensive character. A demonstration of its qualities is shortly to be made before one of the scientific societies.

ACCIDENTS IN COAL MINES.—The following is a list compiled from the Government reports of the fatal accidents and number of lives lost in the districts of Lancashire, Cheshire, and North Wales:—

| Year. | Number of Accidents. | Number of Lives Lost. | By Explosions. | Lives Lost. |
|--------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|----------------|-------------|
| 1851 | 135 | 181 | 181 | 70 |
| 1852 | 149 | 230 | 230 | 91 |
| 1853 | 151 | 237 | 237 | 90 |
| 1854 | 178 | 209 | 209 | 129 |
| Total | 613 | 946 | 946 | 380 |

Besides the above deaths, we may estimate the wounded between 3000 and 4000.

COPPER MINING IN AMERICA.—The following is an extract from a letter, per Canada, written by Mr. C. A. Proctor, the State assayer of Tennessee, and relative to the copper mines of Polk County, Tennessee, which is now a very productive mining district. The Hancock mine, spoken of in the extract, belongs to "supposed" Mr. G. T. Braine; 285 tons of ore appear on the floors, worth 7000s., which is but three weeks' product, so that this mine may fairly be considered as capable of raising our fallen friend.

"Athens, Tennessee, March 7.—Sir: I have just returned from a look at the mines, and make you a few notes. The work at all points looks well, and the present produce of ore is of a very superior quality. At the Hiwassee Mine, in the south-west, on driving under the mound rock, and some 12 ft. below it, a very rich course of ore 7½ ft. at the engine-shaft, still further south, a rich yellow ore, with thin seams of native copper, is found. The Eureka produces good ores, better than ever before; new ground is being opened in addition to what has been. Isabella is still opening ground, and has some rich stopes ready; saw ore there worth 50 per cent. At Hancock, the ore accumulates, while the quality is not impaired; some 235 tons are upon the floors there; the mine is so much aside as to be generally avoided by transient teams. At the western level, the Tennessee Mine produces the best of ore, which, like that at Hiwassee Mine, dips under the mound rock; the ore is worth 50s. per cent. The work advances at the Polk County and the Mary's Mines with vigorous plan. From the bottom of this shaft a level has been driven north-west on the lode some 24 ft., as will be seen upon the ground plan of the work of the mine. A level is also being driven from shaft G on the lode, north-east towards H, but above the oxide. An adit could easily be opened to drain shaft H some 15 ft. below its present depth, which is 32 feet. Work is advancing from several points at the Polk County Mine, but the principal work has been to open new ground, as is shown by shaft F, as is shown in the enclosed plan of said work, marked F; this work will drain the whole southern part of the mine. Some 175 tons are on the floors, as the roads are so bad; teams are in demand to clear out the floors at several mines. Nothing is being done on the Nash, or middle vein. I have no room to show you what has been done upon those veins in the present plan of work, but will forward it with the plan of the Isabella Mine, per next post. I have made every line from actual measurement upon the plan I send you to-day; this will exhibit to you the stopes, and may help you in estimating the probable amount of ore ready to be removed."

—CHARLES A. PROCTOR, State Assayer of the State of Tennessee.

THE IRON TRADE.—"Ironmaster," in the *Forrester Journal* of this day says:—"There is a little alteration in the trade since this day week. A few more orders have been received, but in spite of the season, when orders have always been coming in, there does not seem any elasticity. Pig-iron is not improved in price or demand, and the stocks are steadily increasing. Underselling, both in pig-iron and wrought-iron is going on, but as there is no fixed price named or acted upon by the makers of the former, it is not noticed so much as in the latter case. Everyone knows that wrought-iron cannot be sold at 77s. per ton, with coal and labour at present prices, without loss. There are those in the trade who produce a cheap cinder pig, and who get their own coal at a low rate, who will not let their works be idle so long as a buyer at almost any price is in the market, but the majority cannot do so, unless at a heavy sacrifice. I hope some orders may (now that the reduction has been declared) be given out next week. Iron must be had for the United States, and also for the home trade: there are no stocks at either place."

SECOND EDITION.—Recently published, in crown 8vo., cloth boards, with tables, pp. 205, price 3s. 6d., by post 4s.

BRITISH MINES CONSIDERED AS A MEANS OF INVESTMENT.

WITH PARTICULARS OF THE PRINCIPAL DIVIDEND AND PROGRESSIVE MINES IN ENGLAND AND WALES.

SECOND EDITION, corrected and revised, with a large addition of valuable information.

By J. H. MURCHISON, Esq., F.G.S., F.S.S., &c.

London: Mann, Newbery, 39, Cornhill. Copies may also be obtained at Mr. Murchison's office, 117, Bishopsgate-street Within; at the Mining Journal office, 26, Fleet-street, London; and at the office of Mr. W. E. Commins, Tavistock.

REVIEWS OF THE FIRST EDITION.

Mr. Murchison's new work on British Mines is attracting a great deal of attention, and is considered a very useful publication, and calculated to considerably improve the position of home mine investments.—*Mining Journal*, Dec. 2.

This is a valuable guide to investors in mines.—*Herapath's Journal*, Dec. 2.

A very unpretending but useful little volume, and contains much information, which cannot fail to be interesting to all connected with a most important branch of our national industry.—*Morning Herald*, City Article, Dec. 18.

Any attempt to afford reliable information in the shape of facts must be useful, and tend to make British mines take a better position among the investments of the day.—*Morning Chronicle*, City Article, Nov. 24.

Mr. Murchison has condensed much useful information respecting a field of speculation on which great ignorance prevails; and has here brought together the details most wanted on the legitimate mining undertakings at home. He gives an account, alphabetically arranged, of the principal dividend and progressive mines. We heartily concur in the hope expressed by Mr. Murchison, "that British mines may take their proper position among the investments of the day."—*Globe*, City Article, Dec. 7.

Mr. Murchison has had for some years considerable experience in the management of the business of British mines, and has devoted much attention to mining in this country, and is entitled to be heard with attention when he discourses upon a subject which is of such vast national importance as the mineral wealth we possess. The book will be found extremely valuable as a guide to all who are interested, or about to seek investments in mines; and we have elsewhere availed ourselves of some of the mining curiosities which Mr. Murchison has so skillfully brought together.—*Observer*, Dec. 24.

The author of this work is a gentleman who has for some years past had considerable experience in the management of some of the best of our progressive mines in the south of Devon and east of Cornwall; and under his auspices an immense amount of capital has been legitimately embarked in the employment of mining industry, with every prospect of ultimate success. He is, therefore, well qualified from experience to write on the subject of British mining, and he has produced a work which will be exceedingly valuable to any one who desires to adventure in this important branch of our home industry. . . . And comprising all that is necessary to guide a person in a judicious outlay of his capital.—*Plymouth Journal*, Dec. 7.

The author of this little work has evidently devoted considerable attention to the subject on which it treats, and has succeeded in producing a volume replete with information valuable to those interested in mining speculations.—*Bristol Mirror*.

Those who are seeking information on mines and mining operations, with regard to money investment, will find all the instruction and guidance they need in these pages.—*Dover Chronicle*.

This is a very valuable book, which all who are interested in mining ought to possess. It supplies a very great amount of information, both on the general subject, and on the history of particular mines, especially in Cornwall. It is calculated, think, to give an impulse to legitimate mining adventures, and to prudent enterprise. . . . We repeat, that Mr. Murchison's volume is a well written and useful book, and we hope and expect it will be extensively sold and read.—*Cornwall Gazette*.

This work gives a very interesting account of British mines, and of their value as means of investment. It treats chiefly of copper and lead mines, and points out their immense value if properly worked.—*Glasgow Examiner*.

A very valuable work to those engaged in mining matters. It contains a great amount of important information, not to be had in any equally clear, condensed, and comprehensive form, in any other publication.—*Morning Advertiser*, City Art., Dec. 20.

The great experience Mr. Murchison has had in the management of British mines is the best guarantee the public can have of the accuracy of the work; which is indispensable to those persons who have any interest in mining.—*Derbyshire Courier*.

This is a clear, succinct, statistical, historical, and geological description of the leading mines in Great Britain, with an especial view to their eligibility as investments. The author has taken particular care to discriminate between those mines which are sound and legitimate, and those which are simply speculative in their character. He has treated the subject with great ability.—*Blackburn Standard*.

ROYAL SANTIAGO MINING COMPANY.—The Directors of this

company hereby give notice, that they have this day made a CALL upon the shareholders of ONE POUND per share, to be PAID to the company's bankers on or before the 10th day of March, 1855.

By the terms of the agreement constituting the company, all shares of those proprietors who do not pay the said call of £1 per share within 30 days after the 10th of March will be absolutely forfeited.

The form to make the payment will be delivered upon application at the office, and the certificates must be lodged at the same time, to have the payment endorsed thereon.

35, Broad-street-buildings, Jan. 3, 1855.

AQUA FRIA GOLD MINING COMPANY.—The Committee of

Shareholders appointed at the meeting of this company on the 30th ult., having conferred with the directors, it was unanimously resolved to ISSUE DEBENTURES, being a first charge upon the property of the company, and bearing interest at the rate of 15 per cent., to an amount not exceeding £15,000, the debentures to be issued in sums of not less than £5 each. Scrip and shareholders in this company are, therefore, requested to signify to the secretary, on or before the 17th inst., what amount of such debentures they are disposed to take.

By order, WILLIAM J. VIAN, Sec.

Office, 3, Old Broad-street, London, April 3, 1855.

CORNISH STREAM-ENGINES.

Abstract from *Brown's Cornish Engine Reporter*, from 21st Feb. to 20th March:—

PUMPING ENGINES.

Number reported 24

Average load per square inch on the piston, in lbs. 15.2

Average number of strokes per minute 5.2

Gallons of water drawn per minute 4668

Average duty of 15 engines, being million lbs. lifted 1 ft. high by 70.1

The consumption of 1 cwt. of coal 1040.4

Actual horse-power employed per minute 3.4

Average consumption of coals per horse-power per hour, in lbs. 3.4

ROTARY ENGINES.—WHIMS.

Number reported 17

Number of kibbles drawn 35,897

Average depth of drawing, in fms. 130.7

Average number of horse-whim kibbles drawn the average depth 58.9

by consuming 1 cwt. of coal 17.1

Average duty of 10 engines, as above 17.1

STAMPS.

Number reported 9

Average number of strokes per minute 41.3

Average duty of three engines, as above 107.3

Actual horse-power employed per minute 107.3

PUMPING ENGINES DOING HIGHEST DUTY.

Par Consols, 80 in. single, Million lbs. 97.9

Fowey Consols, 80 in. single, 96.7

Great Polgooth, 80 in. single, 95.5

Par Consols, 72 and 36 in. Sims' combined, 79.1

Pembroke and East Crinnis, 80 in. single, 76.2

Pembroke and East Crinnis, 70 in. single, 75.7

Trelawny, 60 in. single, 72.3

Great Polgooth, 67 in. single, 71.5

WHIM ENGINES.

Fowey Consols, 22 in. double, Million lbs. 36.8

Par Consols, 24 in. single, 36.4

Great Polgooth, 22 in. double, 36.0

Par Consols, 24 and 13 in. Sims' combined, 35.8

Fowey Consols, 18 in. double, 35.0

STAMPING ENGINES.

Wheal Ury, 30 in. single, Million lbs. 50.2

Great Polgooth, 35 in. double, 52.5

South Caradon, 30 in. single, 45.9

PREVENTION OF RAILWAY ACCIDENTS.—In our Journal of the 24th of

February, we called attention to several of the inventions patented by Mr. G. H. Ingham, in order to obviate that disastrous loss of life and limb which is unfortunately so frequently occurring. At that time we pointed out not only their utility, considered as a prevention of these disastrous accidents, but likewise their practical application at a comparatively trifling cost. Were directors of boards to adopt these inventions, not only would a great amount of suffering be avoided, but large sums that are now paid annually for compensation would be saved to the shareholders.

Among Mr. G. H. Ingham's inventions, there is none of greater utility than the Railway Train Indicator, the merits of this we have previously described; at the London Tavern a model, showing its working, has been within the last few days exhibited, and will remain on view until Tuesday next, its working is concisely described by Mr. Edmonds, the gentleman who delivered a lecture at the Panopticon on Mr. G. H. Ingham's inventions. The model is well got up, and plainly shows the practical working of the Railway Train Indicator, so that the most simple can easily understand its utility. It is to be hoped that those who are interested, not only as shareholders, but the many who are obliged to travel on these great arteries of communication, will, by their influence, induce the directors of the several boards to test on a large scale, inventions which have been shown to be of such utility, and likely in their working to be so beneficial in their results, inasmuch as human life will be economised.

THE PROFESSIONAL LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY.—An interesting account of the last annual meeting will be found in another column. During the past year the number of policies effected with and issued by the company was 630, and the amount assured 263,320, producing an annual revenue of 7345, 13s. 6d., being an excess over the business of the preceding year of 43,000, in the sums assured, and 944, 17s. 6d. in the amount of annual premiums. It will be seen that the local boards of management at Melbourne, Adelaide, Sydney, Geelong, and Victoria, have already led to very considerable results. Agencies are also in full operation at the Cape of Good Hope, Bermuda, Nova Scotia, the Canadas, New Brunswick, Toronto, &c. In the course of the proceedings it was very appropriately observed that the office was young in years, but old in the amount of business, and possessed the spring and activity of youth with the solidity of manhood.

Among the Sydney contributions to the Paris Exhibition, are a statuette in gold of a gold-digger with all his implements, and a statuette in silver of an Australian of native race. The total cost of the contributions sent to the Paris Exhibition from New South Wales is 10,000, 4000, of which was spent in purchasing gold specimens.

CORNWALL.—IMPORTANT SALE OF VALUABLE MINE SHARES.

MR. TIPPET WILL SELL, BY PUBLIC AUCTION, at Tyack's Hotel, in Camborne, on Tuesday, the 17th day of April inst., at Four o'clock in the afternoon, in each lot as may be determined on at the time of sale, the following valuable MINE SHARES, viz.:

THIRTEEN (200ths) SHARES in WEST WHEAL SETON, situated in the parish of Camborne, in the county of Cornwall. This mine is paying regular dividends, and its prospects have recently very much improved.

THIRTY-TWO (179ths) SHARES in DOLCOATH MINE, situated in the parish of Camborne aforesaid. This important mine has made large profits, and its prospects are also very good.

ONE HUNDRED AND NINETY-TWO (1105ths) SHARES in the value mine called SOUTH WHEAL CROFTY, situated in the parish of Illogan.

For all further information, application may be made to the auctioneer, or to Messrs. SMITH and ROBERTS, solicitors, Truro.—Dated April 2, 1855.

VALUABLE COPPER MINE AND MATERIALS FOR SALE.

MR. LITTLE is instructed to OFFER FOR SALE, BY PUBLIC AUCTION, in One Lot, at Croft's Hotel, Hayle, on Wednesday, the 18th inst., at Three o'clock P.M., WHEAL CARPENTER, in the parish of Gwinear, with the WHOLE of the MATERIALS in and upon the same. The machinery consists of an ENGINE, equal to a 44 in. cylinder, 9 ft. stroke in cylinder, and 8 ft. in shaft, with boiler about 10 tons; capstan and shears; capstan-chain; balance-hob, &c.; 24 fms. of 6 in. pumps, with 14 fms. of 10 in. pumps; 2 horse-whims, with chain and kibble for raising minerals; tools; blacksmiths' tools; bellows, anvil, &c.; dressing sheds; jiggering benches; with every other requisite for properly carrying out a copper mine. Also, the account-house furniture.

The shaft has been sunk 45 fms. under adit, from which a large quantity of copper ore has been raised and sold; this returns lately have been about 50 tons per month. This mine is situated in one of the best mining districts in the county, in parallel ground to the far-famed Alfred Consols, about half a mile to the south, and between the same cross-courses. Such an opportunity rarely offers to those who wish to invest in Cornish mines. An inventory of the machinery, materials, &c., will be found at the account-house; and the mine is open to the inspection of all who wish to examine it until the morning of the day of sale.—Any further particulars may be had of the agent, on the mine; or of Mr. EDWARD BURGESS, Camborne; or at the offices of the auctioneer, Redruth.—Dated Mining Office, Redruth, April 3, 1855.

PRELIMINARY ANNOUNCEMENT.

IMPORTANT SALE OF ENGINE WORK, MACHINERY, TOOLS, UTENSILS, and MATERIALS, PIG IRON, BAR IRON, SHIP PLATES, SCRAP IRON, &c., at the BEDDINGTON IRONWORKS, NORTHUMBRELAND.

MR. GEORGE HARDCASTLE is instructed to prepare for peremptory and unreserved SALE, BY PUBLIC AUCTION, the extensive and most valuable PLANT of MOBILE MACHINERY and GENERAL STOCK IN TRADE, on the premises.

The sale will take place about the end of the present month of April, and particulars will be furnished in catalogue and further advertisements.

Information will be afforded by the auctioneer, on application at the Sunderland Sale Office; Messrs. GARRATT and CATMORAY, solicitors; or to Messrs. ALLISON and GILLESPIE, accountants, Royal Arcade, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, April 3, 1855.

PUMPING ENGINE, 70 in.—TO BE SOLD, BY AUCTION, at

the Ironworks, Charlestown, Cornwall, on Wednesday, the 11th April next, at One o'clock P.M., a new 70 in. cylinder, 10 feet and 9 feet strokes, PUMPING ENGINE, with a new 12 tons boiler.—For further particulars, apply to the builder, Mr. JAS. THOMAS, at the works; or Mr. JOSHUA S. PHILLIPS, C.E., Marazion, Cornwall.

MINE MACHINERY AND MATERIALS FOR SALE, BY

PRIVATE CONTRACT, a WEST WHEAL ALFRED, in the parish of St. Erth, distant one mile from the port of Hayle:—viz., An 80 in. cylinder PUMPING-ENGINE, 10 feet stroke in the cylinder, and 8 feet in the shaft; a 70 inch cylinder PUMPING-ENGINE, 10 feet stroke, equal beam, with three wrought-iron boilers, about 13 tons in each, and furniture complete.

420 in. H.-pieces. 120 in. 10 feet plunger-pole, with snaf.

30 in. top doorpieces. 218 in. 13 ft. ditto ditto.

218 in. 13 ft. ditto ditto.

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* In accordance with an announcement to that effect, we have removed the prices from all mines in the above list whose quotations have not been forwarded, or the price given confirmed, for a period of one month: we hope by that means to remove one difficulty,—that of purchasers or sellers being deceived by the quotation in the current Journal being represented as present value, although the price may have varied considerably since it first appeared. We hope, also, to bring the prices concerned into more frequent communication with regard to any alteration in the present position or prospects of their respective adventures; and, we need hardly add, that we shall be happy to fill up all the blanks, on receipt of the quotation at which business has actually been transacted, guaranteed by the name and address of our correspondent.